

Public Libraries

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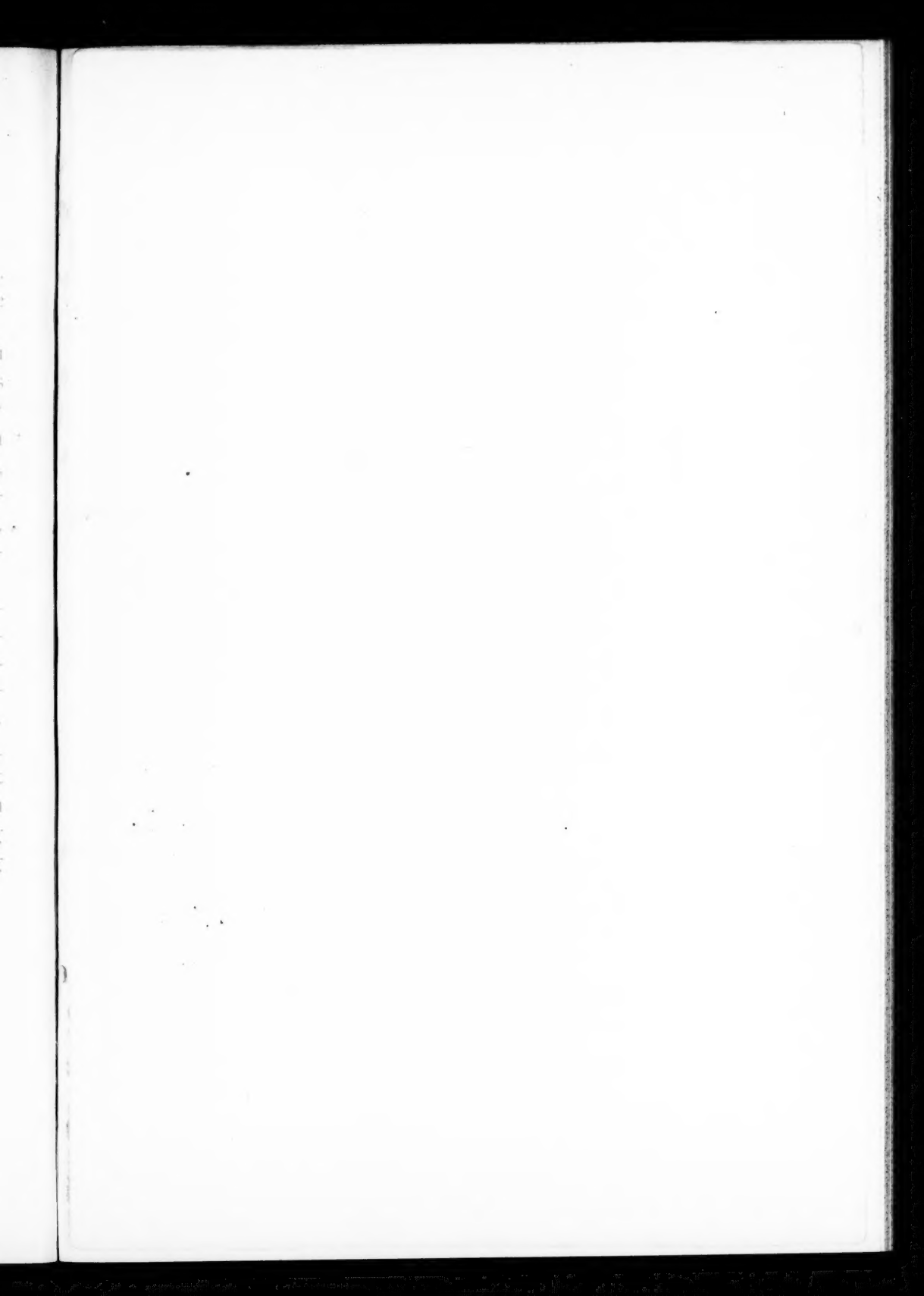
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Library Conditions in America in 1904

Melvil Dewey, Director of libraries, New York state

We have completed an even half century since the first convention of librarians in New York and a quarter century since the epoch-making impetus of 1876 which gave us within a few months the American library association, the *Library journal*, the Bureau of education library report, the Library bureau, and the seeds which a decade later brought fruit in the Library school. This is the natural point from which to glance backward and forward and take our bearings.

Public interest in libraries and appreciation of their transcendent importance has steadily grown, but most rapidly in these latest years. Librarianship has won recognition as a distinct profession and its training schools have taken their place with other professional institutions. With every revision state laws have been made more liberal and local, state, and national appropriations larger. Gifts from private sources have increased in a way never even approximated before in the history of the world. Larger and better buildings have sprung up with a rapidity that has done its part to stamp this as distinctly the library age.

The barriers between good books and people young and old have been steadily breaking down. In legislation as well as in local rules and administrative methods every step is toward greater liberality. Open shelves have been widely adopted in a way that would have scandalized the librarians of

a generation ago. Children instead of being driven away from the library as a spot too holy to be profaned by their prattle are baited persistently with choice books and pictures, special reading-rooms, convenient furniture, and best of all by children's librarians chosen from those with love for the little ones and a genius for helping them. Less than 20 years ago I was branded as an extremist for my persistent efforts in killing a proposition in the state legislature to build a great architectural monument for New York city with no provision for getting reading matter to the mass of the people. I argued successfully before the committee in charge that the scheme was as foolish as to build a reservoir without pipes and hydrants and was laughed at for insisting that New York needed not less than 12 branch libraries. Today the provision for 65 such libraries will hardly meet the needs. Throughout America the libraries are recognizing their duty of getting good reading within easy access of all the people including not only the wards of the great cities and the outlying suburbs but the hamlets surrounding villages, and with the new century the best men have completed their journey on this line of progress by recognizing the duty of the library to reach the isolated farm house, lumber camp, or other residence away from so-called library privileges.

The original library school has been followed by half dozen others and each year there is fuller recognition of the need of larger facilities and more ample funds to do the work needed

and demanded by the public. Library school summer sessions, institutes, round tables and systematic instruction in teaching institutions, specially normal schools, are the natural development of the library training idea which has taken firm hold in America. The vast army who train teachers for the common schools are coming to understand that those who are going out to instruct others must be instructed in the care and use of their own books, of the normal school library, of the larger public libraries with which they will come in contact, and must be taught also the elements of library administration so that they may be fitted to administer the libraries large or small in the schools of which they may have charge and may also serve efficiently on committees or as trustees for local public libraries.

The district library system which started with such wonderful promise in New York in 1837 and was copied by more than 20 other states is taking on new life. With the reorganization of the New York state educational system this year the director of the State library and home education and of the State library school has his title broadened to Director of libraries, and has the administration of \$100,000 a year for the public school libraries of the state and about the same sum yearly for high school libraries. New York, profiting by previous mistakes and omissions, means to be a leader in showing what is practicable, not only in developing the reading habit of pupils in schools but in furnishing to the residents of each locality too small for a separate public library, the best reading through the agency of the teacher and the school house, the official and the building under public control, most widely scattered and by far the best natural center for this pioneer work which in so many cases will grow into an independent local library.

Most of the states have established public library commissions or boards exactly after the analogy of the establishment of the public school system

two generations earlier. New York has a distinct public library department permanently organized with a salaried staff. It is only a matter of a few years when every state will have an active library department taking equal rank with the school department and sharing in the enthusiasm and liberality with which Americans have always supported popular education.

The traveling library idea has steadily spread and proved its great practical value in getting the largest amount of service from a given number of books by utilizing the principles found essential in commerce. Transportation has become cheaper than duplication of stock and facilities.

Perhaps the most significant movement, still in its infancy, is the growing recognition that the word library has lost its etymologic meaning and means not a collection of books but the focalized and efficient organization of all those agencies for general education outside the ordinary teaching institutions. The museum starts perhaps with a single picture, statue, or case of specimens. Extension teaching in its various phases finds its natural home with its best ally the library. Study clubs more and more lean on the library for guidance in selecting subjects, making programs, supplying books and pictures and even a place of meeting. The word library is rapidly coming to mean what in a comprehensive classification has been called Home education as distinct from the schooleducation covered by universities, professional and technical schools, colleges, high schools, grammar schools, elementary schools, and kindergartens. This steady broadening is shown in the effort on all sides to use other agencies than books whenever the end sought can be served better, quicker, or more cheaply. From the infancy of the race there have been four requests on the lips of mankind, What is the news, Tell me a story, Show me a picture, Sing me a song. These great natural needs have produced the newspaper, the novel, the photograph, and the mechanical piano and organ players now spreading so

rapidly through the country. Libraries soon recognized the place of the news room as supplementing the books. They are now not only buying, cataloging, and indexing photographs of everything of interest, but circulating them among the homes and in the near future the well organized public library will supply to any home the rolls of perforated music, too costly for most people to buy, but which enable one with no ability to read music and no mechanical dexterity, to cultivate an appreciation of the best music in a way practically impossible before the invention of these players. In cultivating a love for the best literature we tell people not to read about books but to read the books themselves. If they want to appreciate art not to read about pictures and statuary but to see them. So in music only by persistent hearing of the best can appreciation be satisfactorily cultivated.

The results of every effort of the human mind, in education, in art, in science, in manufacture, in research and construction, find a place and a purpose in the public library. No movement in the history of the world has ever grown so rapidly and received so general support as has this modern public library movement indigenous to America. Nothing has received so much and so generous legislative approval, so large appropriations, so munificent private gifts, so universal commendation and approval. For half a century the field has grown steadily wider and the efficiency of libraries constantly greater till today it no longer requires a prophet's vision to see the time when the library will be reckoned by all thoughtful people as the peer in every way of the school and as equally important for public welfare and development. We look back with pride and amazement on the progress of the last quarter century, but he is but a superficial observer of things bibliothecal who does not see that great as has been the accomplishment of the past there are in the quarter century just before us still greater things in store, plausible, practicable, more than probable.

New York State library, Sept. 15, 1904.

Libraries in Germany

Dr Constantia Nörrenberg, City librarian
of Düsseldorf

Dr Martin Luther, in the year 1524, issued his exhortation to the aldermen of all cities of the German land that they establish and maintain Christian schools. In this same work, for which we honor him as a reformer of the German school system, Luther demands also "that they spare neither diligence nor expense to provide good libraries or book houses." He specifies what kind of books these libraries should contain, and from this it appears that he did not desire libraries for the learned but for the general reader, who, however, at that time was confined to the ruling classes.

To the Reformation period many old German city libraries owe their origin. Their development, however, was soon checked, for the thirty years' war destroyed German prosperity. From that time the city libraries existed in a modest, often rather poverty-stricken way, and when the standard of life rose again their contents were, indeed, still of interest to the learned but not to people of general culture. For the city libraries, used by few visitors, the cities would not appropriate much; so, even today, the city library of a south German town of 46,000 inhabitants, with a collection of 48,000v., has annually a book fund of only \$150 and is open but two days for three hours each day.

On the other hand most of the larger and flourishing cities have striven more and more to make their city libraries efficient and liberally administered institutions, but still institutions which serve purposes of scholarly investigation and serious instruction, somewhat as in Boston, Bates hall formerly did without the lower hall, or the New York public library, before the connection with it of the free circulating libraries. Of such city libraries, as well used as could be expected for institutions of this character, there are today in Germany a large number. I mention those of Frankfurt, Cologne, and Breslau as of the first

rank. All these city libraries are free, they are public; but they are not free public libraries.

Meanwhile there were, even more than a hundred years ago, some friends of popular culture convinced that popular libraries were necessary, and the Prussian minister, Julius von Massow (1800), expressed this very forcibly, inspired by a publication of Heinrich Stephani (1797). A plan for Stadt-und Bürgerbibliotheken on the lines of the English-American public library was drawn up by Karl Preusker as early as 1839.

In the year 1841 Friedrich von Raumer, the noted historian of the Hohenstaufens, traveled in America. During a voyage on the Mississippi, in conversation with farmers and laborers he perceived with astonishment how well-read they were, and heard of the public library. On his return he set himself with zeal to the establishment of the Berlin popular libraries (Volksbibliotheken) and the first four of these were opened on Aug. 1, 1850. For decades neither those in Berlin nor the popular libraries established elsewhere in Germany had anything like the development of the English-American ones. In the first place, they were; even if not always so intended, practically libraries for the lower classes. Even the latest edition of Meyer's *Konversationslexikon* (1897) disposes of them briefly and regards their aim as the instruction and entertainment of the uncultured masses: "Almost never an educational institution for all classes of the people, usually only a benevolent institution for those without means and without culture (the 'people' in the lowest sense of the word), equipped with books of quite elementary character, without such an indispensable provision as a reading-room, with poor catalogs, no trained management, burdensome regulations, and open but a few hours a week in some out-of-the-way locality"—such was the characterization given in the year 1895 of the average German Volksbibliothek, which was rather a kindergarten than a university of the people. Value-

less for the cultured, little visited because poorly equipped and no better provided for because little visited, that is unremunerative, the popular libraries were the stepchildren of the municipal administration—in so far as they were municipal, for a large number of them were supported by philanthropic organizations. Hence there were in Germany at that time, as Rev. Dr August Pfannkuche tellingly, and without much exaggeration, expressed it, "public libraries for the professor and the washerwoman"; the rest of the population got nothing, or was referred to society, subscription, or private circulating libraries.

This condition of things was little in character for a nation in which the obligatory public school had so long been at home and where popular culture is so generally diffused as in Germany, and a veritable revolution has set in since the year 1893, the impulse to which came from two sides.

In the year 1893 many Germans visited the United States, not a few of whom were deeply impressed by the unique institution of the public library. Several, on their return to Germany, began to make propaganda for this institution, which was fundamentally different from the old Volksbibliothek, first, in its aim to serve the whole people, unreservedly, with excellent books selected without party bias, and, next, by its excellent installation, central location in a large building of its own, reading-rooms, rich equipment of books, generous measure of open hours, copious catalogs, trained management, free use, and the avoidance of burdensome regulations. All these points formed the theoretic platform of the German library movement. In practice they could and can be only gradually carried out.

The Society for ethical culture took the lead in the establishment of the first public reading-rooms in Freiburg in Breisgau (1895), and in Berlin (1896). It was the success of these reading-halls which first moved the Berlin municipal administration also to establish reading-rooms in 1896, which city librarian Dr Arend Buchholtz had already vainly

petitioned for in 1892. Various foundations followed, some originating with societies, some with the municipalities. The Society for the diffusion of popular culture had, in its annual report for 1895, given its adherence to the reform program advocated by the writer of this article. The Comenius-Gesellschaft, organized for the promotion of a more humanistic view of life, put libraries on the list of its main objects. It formulated the essential, fundamental points of the program and sought by sending them to the municipal authorities of German cities to secure compliance with these demands wherever new establishments were founded.

This, where money and good-will existed, was not difficult up to a certain point—the selection of books. Catalogs there were in plenty of Volksbibliotheken, even in large, prosperous cities, in which the best-known modern German poets, like Theodor Storm, Gottfried Keller and Paul Heyse, were wholly wanting (they were “over the heads” of the “people”), and just so, excellent, intelligible works of scientific content. The credit of having first brought together a collection of books which met the higher demands of a public library belongs to Dr Ernst Jeep, who in 1897–1898, organized the Municipal public library (Städtische Volksbibliothek) in Charlottenburg near Berlin. When his catalog was published the greatest and hardest step on the way to the library of the future was taken, and all subsequent reorganizations (as in Berlin) or new institutions could build upon this basis.

Such new foundations have followed since in goodly number, but what makes a fundamental contrast between America and Germany is the difference, historical in origin and now deeply rooted, between city library (Stadtbibliothek) and popular library (Volksbibliothek). We have not been weary in pointing out the advantages of the unified library systems of America and England and in promoting the “union library,” but only such cities as formerly had no municipal library have established such a union

public library; for example Charlottenburg (Städtische Volksbibliothek), Elberfeld (Stadtbücherei), Osnabrück (Bücher und Lesehalle). In Berlin there is only now a central library being gradually created as supplement to the 28 Volksbibliotheken, which all have the character of branch libraries, and only a small number of which are provided with reading-rooms. Everywhere else the existing dualism remains. Thus there is in Cologne a Stadtbibliothek and along side it, under quite distinct management, municipal popular libraries; in Frankfurt, a Stadtbibliothek and two public libraries maintained by two different societies, with municipal aid; similarly, along with the Stadtbibliotheken in Hamburg are the Oeffentliche Bücherhalle with subsidy from the city republic; in Bremen and Lübeck, on the other hand, the Lesehallen without subsidy.

The buildings of many Stadtbibliotheken, some of them quite new, are not adapted for frequentation by large numbers, hence there, too, the dualistic system, at least as far as room is concerned, is permanently established. This has one great disadvantage: public opinion in these cities will regard the Lesehalle or Volksbibliothek as a second-rate library in comparison with the Stadtbibliothek, and, on the other hand, the man of the people will hesitate to visit the leading library. As many scientific works which are indispensable in the Stadtbibliothek, such as German translations of Spencer's system, or Darwin's works, are too expensive to be duplicated for the Volksbibliothek, they are practically inaccessible to the people.

The German system has, however, this advantage: that you will find in every city which has a Stadtbibliothek, more serious literature than if, for an equal expenditure, the town had a union library. In consequence of this system, there are, relatively, many scholarly centers in Germany.

In the middle-sized and smaller cities there could be only a question of popular libraries; but there it is often difficult to make the aldermen or the societies un-

derstand that the new Volksbibliothek is something different from the old. In the country, indeed, the elementary Volksbibliothek suffices, and the number of these is growing rapidly. Indeed, many places which in America would begin with 500v. start here with 50. The Society for the diffusion of popular culture has gained the greatest credit in the matter of country libraries, both for establishing and supplying them with books. Between August 1892 and the end of 1903 it founded 7788 libraries or supplied 271,920v. Traveling libraries are provided in many counties as a joint institution of the county administration and the several villages, but for the most part larger, central libraries at the county seats are wanting.

A large number of the libraries in town and country have been founded by local philanthropic societies and often supported by private individuals. If we can not point to such gifts as in America, the public library not having as yet, in Germany, secured such a firm place in the ideals of the nation, yet there are several large foundations that may be named, such as the Kruppsche Bücherhalle in Essen for the officials and employes of the famous works, a population of, perhaps, 100,000 souls—an admirable institution organized by Dr Paul Ladewig, with today 45,000v., by far the largest public library in Germany—also the public library established in Berlin by Hugo Heimann, and others.

Such of these as are not based upon large endowments will, probably, in course of time, pass over to municipal administration. In Germany, that is in the greater part of Germany, the city officials are more favorably disposed toward such unrestricted self-culture as the public library offers than the state governments. Though the late Prussian minister of education, Robert Bosse, in an order of July 18, 1899, recommended public libraries, yet in regard to the selection of literature his was a very conservative standpoint. For some years the Prussian government has aided with money the public libraries of such communities as on their own part

would raise an equal sum. The annual appropriation for the whole Prussian state is \$17,500. The other states of the empire take a similar attitude. A public document act has not yet been dreamed of.

No statistics of popular libraries have yet been compiled; only some inquiries in the larger cities have been made, so that today we can give only an approximate estimate. We may assume, however, that in a few years all German cities of 100,000 inhabitants or over, including those which hitherto have had only inferior Volksbibliotheken, will have genuine public libraries; the middle-sized cities will follow gradually.

Such state legislation as in England and America is not desirable, because as it is, the cities in all the German states already have the right to spend their money for libraries. Of the political parties, the liberals are most friendly to the public library. The catholic party, the "center," naturally takes a different stand. In the cities and districts under catholic control there are libraries established by the Society of St Charles Borromeo under ecclesiastical oversight, but public libraries, as understood in England, America, and protestant Germany, have there but small future prospects.

Librarian—Ten years ago the conception of the public librarian, that is, the man whose chief calling is that of librarian of a popular library, was still unknown. Today there is already a small number of such, but only in the larger public libraries, and there the head librarian has usually an academic education. Women are turning in increasing numbers to the library calling, and, as is usually the case in the beginning, almost all such as have really talent, inclination, and often enthusiasm for it. They learn mostly by practice; library schools are but just beginning. The medium and smaller libraries are generally administered by teachers of the public schools in connection with their position, and for the most part with laudable zeal, but training is often

wanting. Conferences of public librarians were first held in northwest Germany, then in 1904 they were attempted in connection with the meeting of scholarly librarians for the whole of Germany. Here a plan of a model catalog, similar to that of the A. L. A.—but including a smaller number of works—to be prepared by coöperation, and the exhibiting of a model library at the next German Municipalities exposition, were the principal topics of discussion. A German Poole's index will not be made by librarians, but appears as a publisher's undertaking. (*Bibliographie der deutschen Zeitschriften literatur*. Leipzig. F. Dietrich.)

Selection of books—Where a library has a university man as librarian he practically attends to most of the book buying; otherwise committees do. Literary reviews are naturally used as aids. In the *Blättern für Volksbibliotheken* books are reviewed with reference to their suitability for public libraries, but only a limited number whose selection is largely a matter of chance. Books of a distinctly political or religious partisan bias are not allowed in the old *Volksbibliotheken*. The Prussian minister of education, in fact, would exclude fiction which, though not of a directly anti-catholic tendency, is protestant in character, from libraries in catholic localities. It goes without saying that the modern municipal libraries are broader in this respect. The problem of trash fiction troubles us, however, and opinions as to how far one should go are still quite divergent.

Cataloging—Catalogs are, as to their outward form, mostly card catalogs. Library bureau cards and catalog fittings were first imported in 1898, and since 1901 standard size cards with their fitting are manufactured in Germany. Formerly these had no sale. The rules of the Prussian state libraries are usually the basis for the author and title catalog. For subject catalogs, which are used in various libraries, there is still no standard list of headings. Classed catalogs are arranged by each library to suit its own taste. The

Dewey system, so far as I know, is not in use anywhere in the German empire either for classification or shelf notation. Arrangement and notation are usually very simple: a number of main groups and within these no close classification, so that the notation can be kept quite simple (e. g. Bb 301). The American systems of numbering find no acceptance, they are so complicated.

Printed catalogs are sold for a small price. Those of the larger libraries are mostly classified. That is belles-lettres are either arranged in one alphabet or by countries, and under these by authors. The remaining literature is classified and in each subdivision alphabetically arranged, the subdivisions having running numbers. Two indexes, an author and a subject index (often printed on colored paper), refer, without repeating the title, to the subdivisions. In this way we think we combine the advantages of the classed and the dictionary catalog. The latter is found in only a few libraries, but in these has met the approval of readers.

Use of the library—As a rule only adults or persons over school age are allowed as users. Guarantors are almost nowhere required. Probably in all municipal libraries the use is free, except for borrowers' cards, which commonly cost a fee of 2½c. The hours of opening are usually generous in the larger cities. Some libraries, for example the I. Städtische Lesehalle und Volksbibliothek at Düsseldorf, are open daily from 10 to 10 o'clock, or weekly 84 hours, and in libraries where this is not possible, at least the evening hours are preferred. The libraries are usually closed only on great holidays such as Easter, Whitsuntide, and Christmas; many also for a short time in summer. Access to shelves is nowhere usual. Access to the manuscript catalog is commonly allowed, yet but little use is made of it because the libraries are, for the most part, not very large, and the printed catalogs, with the lists of new books, commonly meet all needs. The reference use of books is in general very small, for, except for the books

shelved in the reading-room, there is no reference library of books which may not circulate. The newspaper question is variously solved. The Prussian minister of education Bosse opposed newspapers, and many libraries act accordingly. Others supply newspapers with the exception of the socialistic ones, and others again, newspapers of all parties. Where newspapers are supplied they are much used. The behavior of the public in the reading-rooms has been quite satisfactory.

Home use is in Germany of much greater importance than reading-room use. Our public prefers to read its books in peace in its own home, however humble that may be, rather than in the public reading-room. The loan clerk, if possessed of literary culture and educational instincts, influences the reading by advice, but unfortunately not many libraries are in a position to afford such loan clerks. The reader usually receives only one volume, or the several volumes of a single work, on his card, but many libraries give a second non-fiction card, and good use is made of this. Advance application for books is not required; they are brought as soon as called for. Of charging systems, the ledger is still used only in the older of the large libraries and in the country, everywhere else cards; one card system and two card systems (borrower's card and book card). Where cards are used prompt notice is sent when the book is due; renewals are allowed and fines are low.

The proportions of use in the different departments are similar to those in America. For instance, at the Stadtbücherei in Elberfeld, a typical modern library, 1903-1904: 1) Fiction, 56.85; juveniles, 10.33; literature, 6.46; periodicals, 8.78. 2) General works, 1.48; philosophy, religion, education, 1.46; sociology, 0.43; natural sciences, 2.24; useful arts, 1.87; fine arts, 1.78; geography and travels, 2.99; history, 5.33. (Biography, 1.07; history of civilization [Dewey 390], 1.02; general history, 0.97; German history, 1.89; local history, 0.38).

In the same place—Elberfeld is a

manufacturing town—the number of readers was distributed among different callings as follows: Men, 73.3, viz: scholars, teachers, and higher officials, 6.86; independent tradesmen and manufacturers, 10.46; technicians, 3.53; students and school boys, 4.72; trade apprentices, 5.57; clerks, 22.16; minor officials and stenographers, 9.34; common laborers, servants, and waiters, 9.52; property owners and non-professionals, 78. Women, 26.97, viz: teachers, 1.68; self-supporting women, 8.36; non-professional women, 16.07; students, 0.86.

Buildings—Few public libraries have a home of their own, still fewer one especially built for them. Only the Lesehalle in Jena and the Volksbibliothek in Stuttgart have such. This is the natural consequence of the separation of Stadt- and Volksbibliothek, for a city which has a town library building will avoid the expense of a building for the public library. Pains have, however, been taken to secure centrally located quarters. Reference room and periodical room are not usually separated.

In almost every town the public library has a different character, which depends in the first place on the lack or the existence of a scholarly city library, and in the latter case on the character of that library, and, secondly, on local influences and peculiarities. There is not even any uniform designation. Volksbibliothek, Lesehalle, Bücherhalle, Bücher- und Lesehalle, Lese- und Bücherhalle, Freibibliothek, Stadtbücherei—all these names and more may be met with.

It may safely be said that in most German cities, the form in which popular culture shall be advanced through libraries will be different from that in America. Whether the idea of the public library as an educator will ever be the same here as there can not be foretold. The institution of the public library is closely connected with the American educational ideal. Over there the future citizen is expected from childhood up, to stand intellectually on his own feet, so in early youth

books are put into his hands: Read, learn and judge for yourself. We wish young people who respect authority and do not prematurely or pertly express their opinions or pass final judgment. We are, therefore, more conservative in the choice of the books which we give to them. Many influential people in Germany consider it proper to treat the great mass of the people as juveniles, a standpoint which it is difficult to maintain now that social democracy usurps the rôle of a teacher of the people. The "enlightenment" of social democracy can not be overcome by guardianship, but only by genuine enlightenment.

In Germany those who demand unrestricted and unprejudiced intellectual freedom for the public libraries are still in the minority, and he who speaks or writes in behalf of these libraries, if he wishes to attain practical results, must often forego those arguments which in America have the greatest convincing power. Even manufacturers are coming only rarely and slowly to the conception that the more cultivated a workman is the more effectively capable he is, but Commercial-councillor Lingner, who has established a free library in Dresden, says: I am convinced that America owes its unexampled development for the most part to its educational institutions.

It may be that this development and the increasing economic competition of America will have a strong influence on the German public library movement. However that may be, I believe that the ambition to remain in the lead in the matter of popular culture will continue a sufficiently impelling force and will make the public library even among us, in course of time, a universal national institution and the peer of the American.

A writer in *Centralblatt für bibliothekswesen* for July deprecates the statement that library work requires a doctorate in science, and points out that the time has gone by when learning and ability to live on a mere pittance were chief requisites in a librarian.

Modern British Libraries*

M. S. R. James, librarian of Library Bureau, Boston.

Taking into consideration that the modern library movement in Great Britain, the outcome of the Ewart acts of 1845 and 1850, has been from its outset bounded by rate limitation and taxation, its present virile condition is a matter for optimistic jubilation, rather than pessimistic comment. To accomplish good work in spite of legal disabilities and consequent grave disadvantages is a matter for congratulation. So though its progress has been retarded by obviously absurd and "bumble" like restrictions, and perhaps because it was baffled and thwarted not only by rate limitation and taxation, but by the half-hearted support and the peculiar backwardness of the English in realizing the importance of education for the people, its foundations are the surer and its social and educational value in the community established beyond doubt for all time. At present there is no sign of stagnation and though much remains to be done, consultation of the pages of current library periodicals discloses the fact that, after all, no persons are more painfully aware of this than librarians themselves or more anxious to improve matters, by amended laws and the adoption of the best modern methods of administration consistent with peculiar local conditions. No apologia is required for the modern library movement in Great or Greater Britain and if one glances at conditions in the British colonies there is cause rather for satisfaction than cavilling. As to these colonies, Jas. R. Boose has given considerable and accurate information in his articles on the Libraries of Greater Britain, issued in *The library* (new series, vol. 1, 2, 1899, 1900-1901.) Australasia has taken the lead in providing public libraries. In every town worthy of the name a library is to be found, wholly or

*This article was the last piece of work done by the lamented author. Its scope and tone show marked characteristics of the writer, whose devotion to the library cause hastened her untimely decease. In more ways than one it may be said of her, "though dead, she yet speaketh."

partially supported by the state. New South Wales was the first to start traveling libraries and to have a free library post for book distribution. Queensland is more backward. Tasmania has 37 or more libraries, most of them supported by subscription. Western Australia is well provided with libraries. New Zealand has rate-supported libraries in Wellington and Auckland. South Africa has 115 libraries, all of which receive government grants, and also subscription libraries. In the West Indies there are some excellent libraries endowed by government grants and supported in part by subscriptions. In the east, Ceylon has 24 libraries and others are to be found in the Straits Settlements, Mauritius, Hong-Kong and other places. The Dominion of Canada was the first to establish libraries, if the one established in Quebec in 1797 may be reckoned. Ontario is the most active province and Carnegie's recent gifts will probably do a great deal toward establishing libraries in the other provinces. Toronto and Montreal* are both recipients of his gifts. The Maritime provinces have about 44 libraries, and British Columbia two. The Northwest Territories and Manitoba are beginning to come into line and are encouraging the promotion of school libraries.

There is always a danger, in speaking of library work on all sides of the "seven seas," of descending to truisms, irritating platitudes, or absurd generalizations, or of going to the extreme of pessimistic cavilling, cynical criticism, or odious comparison. The public library movement has survived all this. Each community in each locality has to do the best it can with the resources and material at hand.

The public library movement really owed its birth to Edward Edwards, librarian of the Manchester public library and chief pioneer of municipal libraries, whom Thomas Greenwood designates "a forgotten benefactor of humanity." Edwards gave evidence before the royal commission on the British museum in

1836 and the parliamentary committees of 1849-1850, on the necessity for public libraries. As a result of his testimony, and the labor of William Ewart, the first act to encourage the establishment of museums in large towns was passed in 1845.

It is interesting to note with what illiberal, shortsighted opposition the movement met, from persons who from their civic and social status should have been wiser and broader, though it may be noted as a possible explanation that till the passing of Forster's Elementary education act of 1870, no proper or adequate provision had been made for the free compulsory education of the people, except, we think, in Scotland.

Lancashire, of all counties in England, showed the most marked activity in adopting the acts and establishing free libraries. Wales led the van for some time, and Ireland, for financial and governmental reasons, brought up the rear. J. J. Ogle, in his book on the Free library, in the library series [Geo. Allen, London, 1897] gives the most complete history in detail, of the past and present condition of the library movement in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. His work is not only a careful compilation, but is thoroughly accurate and reliable.

The first library act of 1850 applied solely to municipal boroughs and could only be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the burgesses. The second act, 1853, extended its operations to Ireland and Scotland, though it did not provide for the purchase of books and placed a prohibitive rate limit of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in every pound (1 cent in every \$5).

Later, by the act of 1855, the rate was fixed at a maximum of 1d. in the pound 2 cents in every \$5). Mr Ewart wanted to exempt libraries and museums from taxation, but did not carry his point, so that they are to this day in the anomalous position of being supported by a tax levied on rental value, yet are taxed on their ratable value, i. e. on the buildings which they occupy, an obviously absurd state of affairs which, so far, no amount of legislation has been able to alleviate,

*Montreal, unfortunately, subsequently saw fit to decline the gift.

though Mr Minto tells of means of obtaining relief from local taxation through an act of 1843 (*Library*, vol. 3, no. 11, July, '02, 256-260), and the L. A. U. K. amendment act of 1902 introduced a clause providing for exemption from rating.

A valuable chapter in Greenwood's *Library yearbook* of 1900-1901 gives full details concerning this rate limitation, which are of considerable interest, as it vitally affects the progressive work of libraries and hampers them in many ways. It will easily be seen that the income produced from a rate of 1d. in the pound, does not in small communities provide sufficient maintenance for effective administration or extended effort. Many of the larger cities, finding the income thus produced insufficient, have availed themselves of special acts of parliament to increase the rate, and recent local acts have enabled library authorities in several towns to increase the rate with the consent of the rate-payers, though rarely to more than 2d. in the pound. John Ballinger gives an interesting table of variations of the public acts in the *Library association record*, vol. 3, no. 4, April, '01, 198-204. It is satisfactory to know that a bill is being prepared to abolish the rate limit in all public libraries acts, and if this is passed then indeed the movement will have its yoke removed and things will begin to move more rapidly. There is no doubt that if this obsolete rate restriction were removed, without the expense of special acts, libraries would be able to extend their work in many desirable and necessary directions, while the rate-payers would not suffer from the small increase and would be most assuredly benefited. John Ballinger has pointed this out clearly in his able article on the Rate limit and the future of public libraries. (*Library association record*, vol. 5, no. 1, Jan. '03, 16-28). So much stress has been laid on the legal aspect of the situation in Great Britain, because it is the rate limit and taxation of libraries on their buildings that have been such stumbling-blocks in the path of progress and because it presents so marked a con-

trast to the American system of appropriation for library support, and to the whole attitude of mind of the legislators in both countries and to the British colonies as to the imperative necessity for public education and libraries as a means. Great Britain, however, can claim seniority in making provision for public libraries, as the United States did not do so until 1851, one year after Ewart's act was passed.

London lagged behind in the progressive procession and stayed behind for some time, possibly because it had so many splendid collections of books; probably because it was so largely a "city of villages" or self-sufficient parishes. The London government act of 1899 divided the metropolis into 28 boroughs and caused the amalgamation of a number of existing library areas, and the power to adopt the acts was transferred from a popular vote of the rate-payers to the new councils, resulting in the increase of the number of areas in which municipal libraries have been established.

Comparisons of the difference in methods between American and British libraries were made in 1893 by Peter Cowell of Liverpool and J. D. Brown of Clerkenwell, London, as a result of their visit to the states in 1893 and attendance at the World's fair library convention in Chicago. These were published in *Library*, vol. 5, 1893, 277-290. A later comparison has been made by Andrew Keogh, now of Yale University library, which embodies the most conspicuous differences between the two countries. This was published in *Public libraries*, vol. 6, p. 388-395, and commented on in *Library world*, vol. D, '02, p. 146, with some interesting figures.

Lawrence J. Burpee's pamphlet on *Modern libraries and their methods* (published by J. Hope, Ottawa, as Sec. 2, vol. 8, second series *Trans Royal Soc. of Canada*, 1902) is interesting reading and touches on all the isms and ologies to which library folk on the administrative side of the delivery desk are addicted, in the interests of those who stand on the other side.

Within the last 10 years great strides have been made in methods of administration. In the earlier days of the movement there was too great a tendency to resort to mechanical methods as substitutes for the personal influence and work of the librarian of a public library. Librarians were less efficient and less respected than now, most of them had a supreme contempt for systems of classification, proper descriptive or annotated catalogs, and regarded their office in many instances as that of custodian rather than distributor of books and information. Such a thing as the employment of women except in a few rare instances had not even been contemplated. Happily the "case is now altered" and the rule of thumb librarian with his reverence for indicators, and such like devices for the encouragement of laziness and the veiling of want of knowledge, is now supplanted by a more alert, scientific, and better educated person, who uses labor-saving devices and mechanical aids only so far as they afford opportunity and facility for increasing the scope and usefulness of the work, and no longer regards them as "fetich."

The chief hindrances, added to the legal disabilities already described, have been enumerated by L. S. Jast, Some hindrances to progress in library work, Library association record, vol. 2, pt. 1, 1900, 82-88, and result as he partially states from illiberal rules, the need of an information desk, instead of a blank wall of indicator, which indicates chiefly a want of something vital in this circulating department of the work, the need of good annotated catalogs, of better trained assistants, of open access to the shelves and close classification on them, a reduction of the age limit, more delivery stations, in contradistinction to branch libraries, study club rooms, greater coöperation between schools and libraries and libraries and technical schools, greater facilities for the public, fewer restrictions as to number and time limit of books other than fiction, and increased inter-library loans and closer coöperation between libraries to avoid

the absurd duplication of routine clerical work now done in large cities.

Besides all these conspicuous needs, much more provision is necessary for children in libraries, as John Ballinger has pointed out, and substantial grants should be made by government, which surely must some day ere long realize that oft-repeated statement that public libraries are a part of the educational system of the country—secondary, it may be, but none the less important; rather the more so, as providing means for carrying on the elementary education begun in school. These suggested government grants should be made in addition to the special grants from the county councils and technical education boards already existing. Further, an increased use of the telephone in libraries would mean increased use of the library by numbers of business men, newspaper men and other busy people who have no time to go to the library for information which could quite well be given them over the telephone to the saving of inquirer and librarian. This might mean better telephone service, but this would in itself, specially in London, be a public advantage.

Traveling libraries and a free library post such as some of the colonies already possess, might well be added to this list of desiderata. No one but he who has been through it realizes what the isolation of a country district can be for a student, cut off from the supply of books absolutely essential to him in his studies. The influx of the rural population to cities is deplored, but is it to be wondered at when facilities are so few and far between?

John Ballinger, in his paper on Admission to public libraries in Great Britain, comments on the absurdity of the age limit; he also states something that it may be well to recall, Experience has shown that the people may be trusted. If the library staff is efficient there is nothing to be feared from the public. (*Library*, vol. 2, '01, 210-219.) It is because America has realized this and the importance of education, that

she is now filling the markets of the world and beating nations in their own market places, at their own trades. John Ballinger of Cardiff, Wales, was one of the first to recognize the needs and rights of children in libraries and has pointed out regretfully the reasons why it is impossible under the present conditions to provide adequate accommodation for this important department of the work: Rate limit and the future of public libraries (L. A. R. Jan. '02, 16); School children and public libraries (L. A. R., vol. 1, pt. 1, '99, 64-72); but in spite of difficulties and drawbacks much good work has been and is being done, though in Canada and Australia and other colonies as yet the needs of the coming generation do not appear to have attracted sufficient attention. It is quite impossible to lay too much stress on the importance of work with children, as all educators and librarians know, and the "training of the child in the way he should go" can be done without leaving the equally important adult work undone.

Technical methods are really the least part of library work, though all parts of a machine must be in the best condition. However, it is these technical appliances, such as the indicator, which we hope will soon be as extinct as the dodo and only to be viewed through a glass museum case as a relic of the darker ages in library administration, which have attracted most attention. No one would suppose that there could be any question as to open access being the best for a library whose premises were so constructed as to admit of it, yet the articles to which we give reference show how much and how often the method has been criticized pro and con. L. A. Jast (L. A. R., vol. 4, '02, 274-282); A study in testimony (*Library world*, vol. 4, '01, 116); From the reader's point of view, H. K. Moore (*Library*, vol. 1, '99-1900, 49-62); W. E. Doubleday (*Library*, vol. 1, '99-1900, 189-195). No one would credit the possibility of opposition to close classification, descriptive catalogs, subject indexes, book bulletins, exhibitions of books, etc., yet each

and all progressive steps or improvements have had obstacles thrown in their path, and it has been an uphill fight for all that has now resulted in well-merited recognition. Even the giving of lectures in connection with public libraries has been fraught with difficulty, for under the acts no provision was made for an appropriation for the payment of lecturers, and though much fine work has been done, a good deal remains to do, though lecturers have given their services, and some courses of lectures have been endowed by generous donors. Lectures under P. L. acts, C. J. Kimmins (L. A. R., vol. 3, '01, 6-12); Free public lectures, library lectures, Peter Cowell (L. A. R., vol. 1, pt. 1, '99, 146-156); Lectures: a retrospect and suggestion, W. J. Willcock (L. A. R., vol. 4, '92, 394-400).

The lecture feature of public library work in Great Britain is particularly important, as so many libraries are connected with museums and art galleries or institutes for secondary and technical education, therefore it is obvious that anything tending to closer coöperation between them is of great value. Mutual relationship of public libraries and technical school and museum (L. A. R., vol. 3, '01, 567-371); Art galleries in relation to public libraries (L. A. R., vol. 3, '01, 13-21).

Some peculiar features of library work in Great Britain, apparently not brought out in the comparisons between British and American libraries, are the following:

No government grant is made to public libraries in Great Britain, though such aid is usually given in the colonies. In many places the rate is not sufficient even to provide a building, consequently loans have to be negotiated and interest paid on them, thus further depleting the only available income. Carnegie's multiple and munificent gifts will probably decrease this difficulty in the future and greatly increase the efficiency of library buildings, both in Great and Greater Britain, besides giving greater incentive to architects to study the details of such structures not only from

the pictorial but also the practical points of view. A tendency toward this desirable combination is already evident. A matter of interest also is the recognition of public libraries as local bureaus of information by the emigrants' information office long ago established in London to supply intending emigrants with useful and trustworthy information. The coöperation of public libraries and this office is mutually advantageous and a great deal of good work has been accomplished through these combined agencies.

Libraries too are considered as the natural and proper depositories of local records, newspapers and other matter of local value. Good work is also being done in sending out special lists of books on technical subjects to factories and workshops in large cities, or posting bulletins from time to time, also by giving special exhibitions of matter illustrative of local trades, likely to be of practical value to mechanics, artisans, and other workers.

Another peculiarity is the posting of the advertisement sheets of the daily papers in suitable positions outside the library for the benefit of those seeking employment. This is done to prevent undue crowding of the newspaper rooms at certain times of the day.

Most British libraries take special pains in selecting technical and trade journals treating of the special local trades and manufactures in individual localities, also in selecting and purchasing by means of the technical education grants, books that are really the best and latest productions on any one particular trade or occupation.

This part of library work is considered specially important in Great Britain, but not so much attention appears to be given to it in America. It is undoubtedly one of the most difficult matters with which a librarian has to deal.

The use of the indicator has been commented on ad nauseam, but in many libraries where it has been installed and for pecuniary reasons has to be kept, it is now used only for the issue of fiction.

The poor quality of the paper in some

modern books is a cause of anxiety to British librarians, though lessened somewhat by the almost universal practice of purchasing, where practicable, books bound directly from the sheet, which increases their durability and ultimately effects substantial saving for the library (L. A. R. Jan. '03, 53).

The net price book difficulty is affecting British libraries as well as American ones, and they appear to be just as much at the mercy of the publishers as their colleagues in the States. The L. A. U. K. adopted a resolution at a monthly meeting of the association, February, 1902, regretting the disallowance of any discount from the price of net books, on the ground that as the libraries are large and regular customers, though they do not expect or want trade terms, they do consider that they should be regarded in the light of wholesale purchasers and not be placed on the same footing as retail customers. W. E. Doubleday's paper on the question is of interest (L. A. R., vol. 4, no. 3, Feb., 02, 140-146).

The personnel of the library staff is affected considerably by the ever-present rate limit and consequent inadequacy of income for maintenance and salaries. A glance at the paragraph on the matter of salaries in Greenwood's library yearbooks, 1897, p. 93, and 1900-1901, p. 3-4; and chapter 1, p. 34-39 of Macfarlane's Library administration is instructive, as is the table of hours of duty, Greenwood's library yearbook 1900-1901, 236-253, and staff hours, p. 262. The average number of hours of duty appears to be between 46 to 48 a week. However, library trustees and the public as they come to a better realization of the value of the work done will recognize eventually that the laborer is worthy of his hire, the more so as they find assistants taking pains to fit themselves specially for their work in spite of the small remuneration offered. It is encouraging to note in this connection that the education committee of the L. A. U. K. which has for some time held training classes first in summer and after in winter sessions, has made an arrange-

ment with the London school of economics of the University of London to hold classes in their premises, the money for lecturers being found by the Technical education board of the London County council, and a scheme is under consideration for reorganizing the whole system of examinations and classes, which, if carried out, will provide what will practically be a training school for librarians of a very efficient nature. It is interesting also to note the increase in the employment of women in libraries, Greenwood's Yearbook 1900-1901, p. 263, as assistants and also as chief librarians. There seems every reason to believe they will ultimately be on the same footing as men in library work of the future. Even in Australia we notice the idea has begun to gain ground. Miss Windeyer, who trained in the New York State library school, has recently been appointed as assistant in the Sydney public library, and in the Bahamas and Barbadoes women act as assistants and chief librarians. In 1895 the library assistants of London (then all men) formed an association of their own which has been very successful. Some of its members are now librarians of South African libraries. It owns a technical library for circulation among its members, and issues a publication, the *Library assistant*, started in 1898 as a medium of communication among them. This association now has a Northwestern branch affiliated.

The L. A. U. K., itself inaugurated in 1877, a year after the A. L. A., has done valuable and scholarly work. It was granted a royal charter in 1898, and under the weight of this added dignity has waked to the fact that there is a practical as well as a scholarly and bibliographical side to library work, and by means of its various committees has accomplished a great deal, especially in the matter of promoting legislation. It owns a technical library, which is being reorganized and put into working order for the use of members.

There are several branches of the L. A. U. K. which hold monthly meetings and look after local conditions. As yet

we know of no colonial associations other than those of Australasia and Ontario, but it is more than probable South Africa, when in a more settled condition, will also establish one. In the matter of library publications of a special character the L. A. U. K. in spite of its unendowed condition has done well and its members have contributed extensively to library literature. Of periodicals the two best are the official organ, *Library association record* and *The library*, which, though reported in the last October number as defunct, appears to have been resurrected recently. Besides these there is the *Library world*, an independent periodical, which pursues a progressive policy on the lines of practical librarianship, and last and least the little medium of communication between the library assistants, already referred to above.

Possibly enough has been written to show that the tendency of the times is toward better work and more progressive methods, as the result of higher ideals and better material with which to work them out.

(For a good deal of the later information the writer was indebted to J. D. Brown, of Clerkenwell public library, London, E. C. Eng.)

Printed Matter for the Blind

An act to promote the circulation of reading matter among the blind.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, That books, pamphlets, and other reading matter in raised characters for the use of the blind, whether prepared by hand or printed, in single volumes not exceeding 10 pounds in weight, or in packages not exceeding four pounds in weight, and containing no advertising or other matter whatever, unsealed and when sent by public institutions for the blind, or by any public libraries, as a loan to blind readers, or when returned by the latter to such institutions or public libraries, shall be transmitted in the United States mails free of postage, and under such regulations as the postmaster-general may prescribe.

Approved April 27, 1904. Ordered by the postmaster-general June 2. Order no. 541.

Public Libraries in Austria

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The movement began between 1860 and 1870. Some insignificant libraries with from 50 to 300v., partly valueless gifts, were opened in the country by some Volksbildungs-Verein. The school gave place for a bookshelf, the teacher gave out the books once a week in the evening or on Sunday after church. In this poor way many of these societies work on until today. In the cities here, as in Germany, with few exceptions, nothing was done, everyone thought that the old state and city libraries were sufficient.

In 1878 and 1879 were founded two library societies in Vienna, which attained a circulation of 20,000, respectively 60,000 in the two libraries opened in the year 1879. In 1887 the Volksbildungs-Verein of Vienna opened its first free library. In 1890, six libraries of this Verein had a total circulation of 100,000.

The means were small, the progress was slow. It was quite clear to me at that time, and it is clear now to most practical men, that the state and the cities had no money for free libraries, and that our rich men took no interest in the matter. My program was: let us open greater libraries for the whole day, and introduce a library tax of 2 or 3 cents (10 to 15 kreuzer) a month. This will be sufficient to carry on the work if we buy and bind the books en gros.

At last an insufficient tax of 1 cent a month was adopted, and I opened the first library with a circulation of 200,000. As the highest tax proposed was rejected, and as the libraries continued to be shut during day time, I decided to make my experiment in Graz (100,000 inhabitants). We founded there a society on my plan, opened three libraries, and had a circulation of 200,000. Everyone was satisfied; no working men protested against paying 3 or 4 cents a month. After this experience I proposed a second time my reforms in Vienna, and they were rejected a second time. Now we founded a new society.

In the time of seven years we opened the Central library with 17 branches and a circulation of 1,800,000. The Central library without branches in the year 1903, had a circulation of 643,857 (235,725 scientific works, rest fiction, juvenile literature, and journals). The Central library delivers on demand every day scientific works to the branches, as well as to most of the public libraries of other societies. The Volksbildungs-Verein pays a certain amount for the delivery service. The Central library opened on the same principles a library in the city of Mödling (20,000 inhabitants) which has a circulation of 80,000.

Many societies in the last years have introduced a tax of 1, 2, 3 cents a month with very good success. Our working classes are not so poor that they can not pay 3 cents a month for good books. They spend a dollar a month for drink and trifles, and are willing to pay 3 cents for mental culture. Vienna spends now 220,000 kronen a year for public libraries (the city gives a subvention of \$10,000), and we have a circulation of 31¹/₁₀ millions. This was the result since we introduced the small library tax.

In the provinces the old societies with free libraries continue to exist, but the books are worn out and no statistics are published because the numbers are rather poor. Two examples for illustration: The Verein z. Verbreitung gem. Kenntnisse in the lapse of 35 years has founded and distributed to 1200 (?) public libraries 60,000v., 50v. to one library; circulation unknown. The Bund der Deutschen in Böhmen has founded 362 libraries with 35,000v., 100v. per library, expenses \$400 a year, and so on.

Good results show the following two societies: The N. O. Volksbildungs-Verein, which adopted the library tax in the last year, has 140 libraries with a total circulation of 150,000. What this corporation attained in the lapse of 20 years, the Südmark has done in four years on the basis of the library tax. Dr Micael Hainisch gives every year 6000 kronen for public libraries in the Alpine provinces, and the Central library sends the complete libraries out to those places

where the Südmark has prepared the ground. In the whole the Alpine provinces have a circulation of about half a million.

Next comes Bohemia with the adjacent provinces, where the free library without the transitory aid of a tax may at length be successful, as in these districts some cities and some rich men take an interest in the work. The Ottendorfer library in Zwittau, founded and sustained by an American, is well known. The Karlsbad free library has a circulation of 130v. a day. The city and the savings bank give 4400 kronen a year. Aussig, free library, 5000v.; circulation 47,000 (1903); reading-room 30,000 visitors. The city gives the rooms (in a school). The savings bank gives a subvention of 4000 kronen.

In Reichenberg through subscription over 40,000 kronen were raised; 6500v., circulation 56,000; 42,000 visitors in the reading-room.

These are the best types of free libraries in our country. In Vienna and in the Alpine provinces the free library movement proved a failure and good results were only attained when we introduced a small tax.

The Wisconsin Free library commission has made arrangements with the H. W. Wilson Company, Minneapolis, Minn., publishers of the One-place book and magazine indexes, to publish the buying lists which are compiled by that commission.

Through the coöperation of the commissions of their own states, these buying lists are distributed, without charge, to all free public libraries. Commissions of other states may secure terms for these lists in quantities, by addressing the publishers; single copies are five cents and may be had at the publishers.

In these lists, full names and catalog entries are given, together with publishers and the prices. The Library of congress serial number is given, also the number of cards needed for each book where that information is available.

The first list issued under the new arrangement is ready for distribution.

The Public Libraries in Denmark

Andreas S. Steenberg, professor and librarian of the Royal college, Horsens, and State library commissioner of Denmark

The development of the Danish public libraries has been like the development of the libraries by the other European nations—quite different from that of the American libraries. For a long time only the class of scientific men, small in number, used books. Therefore scientific libraries were founded, and they were only used for scientific purposes. It was not until the last century that the people's enlightenment had been promoted in such a way that popular libraries could be of any use. Therefore the scientific libraries, and the libraries which are called the people's libraries, are standing much farther apart from each other, than in England and the United States of America. While the Danish scientific libraries, which are state libraries, are well off and can bear comparison with those of foreign countries, the people's libraries, for the most part private institutions, are much behind in comparison with the libraries of the English-speaking nations.

Scientific libraries

The largest of these are the great Royal library (Det store kongelige Bibliotek), the University library of Copenhagen (Københavns Universitetsbibliotek) and the State library of Aarhus (Aarhus Statsbibliotek).

The great Royal library, Copenhagen, was founded by Frederic III (1648-1670), and grew very amply as well by gifts from men of letters as by purchase and by delivery of all Danish printed matter (see below). It was not open to the public till 1793. It is lodged in a wing of Christiansborg palace. The greater part of this palace was destroyed by fire in 1888. The library escaped the danger, but this event and the permanent growth of the library brought to pass the plan of a new library building, which is now being erected.

The library spends every year \$11,000 for the purchase of books. The large development of literature has made nec-

essary a specialization in the purchases; therefore a division of labor exists between this library and the university library in such a way that the Royal library mainly purchases books which belong to the "humaniora," the University library mainly books on the sciences.

The Royal library contains 600,000v. and 20,000 manuscripts. It is divided into a Danish and a foreign division. In both the arrangement of books is by class division, very closely worked out. The catalogs are manuscript ledgers. Some parts of the library have special card catalogs (music, Danish pictures). There is a strictly alphabetical catalog for the use of the staff (21 persons).

The library is open five hours every week-day. The reading-room besides is open in the summer months two hours in the afternoon. Every person is admitted to the reading-room; for home reading, persons who are not house-owners or government officers must get a guarantor. In the reading-room 27,000v. are used every year; for home reading 15,000v. are taken out.

The library has published a very important work, *Bibliotheca Danica*, a systematic catalog of the Danish literature 1482-1830.

The University library of Copenhagen can be traced back to 1482. In 1728 it was completely destroyed by a fire which laid in ashes the church in the loft of which it was lodged. It was not until 1860 that it got a separate building. It has received large gifts of books, e. g., *det Classenske bibliotek*, and has incorporated several special libraries. It gets its books in the same way as the Royal library, spending every year \$5000 for the purchase of books. It now has 400,000v., 7000 manuscripts, among which is the unique Arnamagnean collection of old Icelandic and Norwegian manuscripts.

The catalog arrangement is by class division. A card catalog, which will replace the old catalog ledgers, is being worked out. A strictly alphabetical catalog exists for the use of the staff (15 persons).

The library is open four hours every week-day and three hours in the after-

noon in the summer months. The conditions for using the library are nearly the same as at the Royal library. In the reading-room are annually used 35,000v.; for home reading 23,000v. are taken out.

These two libraries have, since 1781, received copies of all Danish printed matter. The new regulations for this delivery are contained in an act of May 2, 1902. It ordains that of all printed matter two copies are to be delivered to the Royal library, one copy to the State library in Aarhus, and one copy to the University library. The archives of the provinces also receive some of the newspapers.

The State library of Aarhus

This library was founded March 22, 1897. It got its books mainly from the duplicates of the Danish books in the Royal library, from the Library of the cathedral school and the diocese in Aarhus, from several large private libraries, one of them containing the best collection of books on the Slesvig-Holstenic question. It is lodged in a new building. It is open every week-day three and one-half hours, and from September to May two hours in the evening. To some of the books there is open access, and children are freely admitted to the reading room.

In the library are 200,000v., as many pamphlets, 10,000 portraits. The collection of music has 2800v.

The reading-room was, the last year, visited by 30,000 persons. The number of books used in the reading-room can not be counted, because the books which are most in use are placed on shelves with open access. In the reading-room there are 40 magazines and 10 newspapers.

For home reading 10,500v. were used. Of these, 5000v. were sent to persons not residing in Aarhus.

Every royal college has a library containing from 10,000 to 40,000v. They are open to the public a few hours every week. In the Episcopal cities of the diocese there are libraries erected for the use of the clergy. One of them is

connected with the college library. Other libraries are: Karen Brahes bibliotek in Odense, founded in the last half of the seventeenth century, and containing old Danish and German literature, especially some very rare Danish manuscripts, the library of the Royal academy of arts (det Kongelige kunstakademis bibliotek), the library of the Agricultural college (Landbohøjskolens bibliotek), the library of Askov high school (Askov højskoles bibliotek).

The people's libraries

The Danish popular libraries are very different from the free public libraries in England and America, especially because they very seldom have reading-rooms. They are, therefore, mainly of importance in giving easy access to good fiction. But there has been progress in the last years in the reading of the more useful books.

The People's libraries of Copenhagen (Københavns folkebiblioteker) are the largest. They were founded by the city in 1888, and contain seven libraries spread over the city. Three of them have small reading-rooms. The city every year spends \$5400 on them. They have 45,000v. The libraries are open on week-days (Wednesday excepted) from 7 to 9 p. m., the reading-rooms from 7 to 10 p. m., and on Sundays from 5 to 10 p. m. The borrowers, who for the greater part are artisans and workingmen, pay 4 cents in the month; they number 6000 in an average. They take out 400,000v. every year. There is a small library in the suburb Valby, just now incorporated in the city.

In Frederiksberg, which is situated close to Copenhagen, the town has founded three libraries, which are working like the libraries in Copenhagen. The town spends \$900 every year on them. They are open four times every week from 6:30 to 8 p. m. They contain 10,000v. and give out every year 40,000v. Besides these public libraries there are in Copenhagen several society libraries, e. g. the library of the Working men's society (Arbejderforenings bibliotek), 20,000v., the library of the

Reading union of working men (Arbejdernes læseselskabs bibliotek), 9000v., and the library of the Women's reading union (Kvindelig læseforenings bibliotek), 22,000v.

In the greater part of the country towns there are People's libraries. They are commonly managed by a private committee, or by a society; a few are the property of the town. They are often lodged in some public or technical school. A few of them have their own buildings. They are supported by contributions from the state, from the municipality, from private persons, and sometimes from savings banks. They contain 1000 to 5000v., and are open a few hours every week. Some of them have a reading-room. They give out every year from two to seven times as many volumes as they contain. In a few of them the borrowers are admitted free, but for the most part the borrowers pay a small sum (two to four cents) every month. The borrowers are for the greater part artisans and workingmen.

In five of the towns the libraries give out books, as well to the town as to its surrounding country, by sending out to reading circles or smaller libraries boxes containing books. The reading circles and libraries pay a small sum for the books, and participate in the management of the town library.

The villages have other libraries which are named Parish libraries (Sognebogsamlinger) or Reading unions (Læseforeninger). They are founded by private means. Formerly only a few of them were supported by the municipality; but now a great many of them get this support because the state, by subsidizing the libraries, takes into account whether the library has local support. The libraries contain a few hundred volumes; the librarian is nearly always the teacher of the parish, who receives no pay for this work. In many villages the libraries are closed in the summer time. In a few parishes there are reading-rooms. Of these libraries there exist 450. In some places is founded a sort of circulating library by mutual changing of the

books from library to library. One of the Danish islets has founded a circulating library with a central library from which boxes with books are sent out to the district libraries. In some libraries lectures on various topics are given.

The people's libraries are supported by the state in two ways—through the State library commission and through the Committee for the promotion of the people's enlightenment.

The State library commission spends yearly \$4000. It subsidized, in 1904, 366 village libraries and 42 town libraries with sums from \$2.70 to \$55.

As it is often very difficult for small village libraries, when founded, to have enough books to allow them to circulate, the commission lends to such libraries gratis for six months boxes containing 40 to 50v. Every box has a printed catalog and a handy charging system.

For teaching the librarians how to manage a library, the commission presents to every library a book, *Folkebogsamlinger, deres Historie og Fridretning*, A. S. Steenberg, Aarhus og København, 1900, 176 pages, bound in a model binding; and for helping them in choosing their books, a catalog containing the titles of the best books for popular libraries. A member of the commission visits the libraries, lectures on public libraries, and gives advice about their management. The commission receives sometimes books for distribution to the libraries, from private persons or public institutions. For several years past the commission has tried to get teachers and librarians interested in library work with children and the founding of school libraries.

The Committee for the promotion of the people's enlightenment publishes books which are adapted for popular reading. These books the Committee, being supported by the state (\$8000 every year), is able to sell very cheap or give away to public libraries, school libraries, hospitals and other public institutions, several societies, people's high schools, agricultural schools, and the pupils in these schools.

Swedish Libraries*

B. Lundstedt, Royal library, Stockholm, Sweden

The national library of Sweden, the Royal library (Kungl. Biblioteket), dates from the time of King Gustavus Vasa (1523-1560). As early as 1661 a law was passed entitling the Royal library to a copy of every publication printed in the kingdom. This law is also embodied in the press-law now in force. During the period 1871-1877 a special building was erected for the Royal library in the Humlegården park, in Stockholm. The library possessed at the close of 1903, about 314,900v. and about 1,000,000 pamphlets, plates, and maps kept in 11,000 portfolios. The manuscript section contains about 10,435 manuscripts. The annual increase amounted in 1903 to 28,113v. and pamphlets. In the year 1903 the number of visitors amounted to 34,892, and 73,622v. were handed them. The number of volumes lent for home use amounted to 11,949.†

In Stockholm, there is a large number of special libraries, among which are: 1) The library of the Royal academy of sciences, embracing natural science, astronomy, and mathematics. The number of volumes in this library amounted in 1900 to about 90,000, besides 40,000 pamphlets. The library receives in exchange for its own publications those of about 700 learned societies and scientific institutions. During 1900 the number of visitors amounted to 3377; volumes referred to at the library were 5584, and the number of volumes lent for home use, 2263. 2) The library of the Caroline institute of medicine and surgery, containing the country's greatest collection of medical literature, possesses 35,000v. and 15,000 pamphlets. 3) The library of the Central gymnastic

*Reprinted, with some alterations by the author, from Sweden, its people and its industry: historical and statistical handbook published by order of the government; edited by Gustav Sundbarg, Stockholm, 1904.

†The Royal library has published, since 1886, an annual systematic catalog of all foreign books acquired by the Swedish public libraries (1903, 30 libraries) stating the library in which each book is placed (*Sveriges offentliga bibliotek. Accessionskatalog*), with an alphabetical index for the year 1886-1895. Since 1878 it published an annual report *Kongl. bibliotekets handlingar*, containing bibliographical monographs, etc.

institute for gymnastics, anatomy, and physiology, has about 5500v. 4) The library of the Royal academy of literature, history, and antiquities, for archeology, numismatics, and history, contains over 16,000v. 5) The library of the Riksdag, for jurisprudence, politics, and political economy, the parliamentary documents of foreign countries—in all 32,000v. 6) The library of the Central bureau of statistics, for statistics and political economy, contains 35,000v.

Among the provincial libraries, that of the Uppsala university is the most important. It has been entitled, ever since 1707, to receive a copy of every publication printed in the kingdom. In 1903 the library had about 347,000v. and 13,637 manuscripts. In 1902 the number of visitors amounted to 7965, to whom 43,477v. were handed. The number of loans during the same year amounted to 20,318v., of which 5655v. were lent to scientific institutions. Next in size to the library of the Uppsala university, comes the library of the Lund university. Ever since the beginning of the eighteenth century the library has been entitled to receive a copy of every publication printed in the kingdom. The library contains at present about 185,000v., besides pamphlets, and 5000 manuscripts. In 1902 the number of visitors amounted to 11,297 persons, for whom 37,308v. were taken down, and the number of volumes lent during the same year was 13,261.

Among other libraries outside of Stockholm, the city library of Gothenburg is the most important, and contains over 60,000v. In 1900 a new library building was erected for the same. The number of visitors amounted in 1902 to 7255, the number of books taken down to more than 9657, and for home use 5406v. were lent.

At all the state colleges in the kingdom there are libraries which are also accessible to the public. Some of them are very old. The most important is the very valuable library of the Linköping diocese and state college (Stiftsbiblioteket), with about 100,000v. and

1600 manuscripts, besides 500 letters on parchment.

The origin of parish libraries in Sweden can be traced as far back as the beginning of the seventeenth century, but it was not till the nineteenth century that they came to be of any great significance. The same educational movement which, in 1842, gave to Sweden its obligatory common schools, also called forth measures for the more general establishment of parish libraries.

In 1870 the number of parish libraries in Sweden may be regarded as having amounted to about 1800. At this time, however, the interest in the matter began to decrease, so that several of the libraries fell into desuetude and were dispersed. But in these last years the interest has reawakened, and at present the movement for the establishment and extension of people's libraries is unquestionably making headway.

The parish libraries are owned by the respective communities; their support is mostly dependent, however, on the benevolence and generosity of private individuals. In 1902 the Riksdag handed in an application to the government regarding investigation as to the conditions on which state grants might be given to people's libraries. In the country the parish libraries seldom contain above 500v. Some few have 1000 to 3000v. In the cities most are of this size. In the country as well as in the cities it is usual to have the libraries quartered in schoolrooms or municipal offices; in most cases they are attended to by the common school teachers. Some few of the libraries lately re-established have their own premises. The books are selected from the more popular literature. Where the libraries are well kept and augmented yearly, they are diligently made use of. The greatest part of the book loans are taken by persons of the working class, mostly at an age of 15 to 30 years. Books of a narrative style, as also descriptions of travels and accounts from history, are preferred; next in order come works of natural history and popular works of astronomy, physics, and chemistry; re-

ligious works, on the contrary, are less read, as the families usually are amply furnished with such. One of the best libraries of this kind is in Hedvig Eleonora parish in Stockholm.

The most notable collection of books for the people is, however, to be found in the People's library of Gothenburg city. This is founded on donations made by members of the Dickson family. The town council selects the members of the board having charge of this institution. The library is lodged in a large and beautiful building, erected expressly for the purpose, centrally situated at a principal crossing of the largest street of the town. The apartments are spacious, lofty, and light, and the regulations for visitors especially appropriate. Admission is free, and in 1901 the number of visitors amounted to 145,000, of nearly all ages and grades of cultivation. For reading in the rooms were handed out during the same year 54,300v., beside which 26,200 loans were granted for home reading. The whole collection comprises about 9000v.

An association for the establishment of people's libraries and reading rooms was formed in Stockholm in 1900. The object of the association is to work, in different ways, for the enlightenment of the poor people, especially by establishing reading-rooms in connection with a collection of books for home reading. A couple of years earlier, interested persons at Kungsholmen in Stockholm, the largest manufacturing district of the city, had established a reading-room, which has been transferred to this association. In the beginning of 1901 the Stockholm town council voted means to the association for establishing new reading-rooms, and also granted a yearly support for these. In Gothenburg, there are reading-rooms established by the Bolag or public company for the sale of spirits; these are frequented by more than 300,000 persons yearly. Also in other places having a numerous manufacturing population, reading-rooms have been started.

There are several private collections of books for the people in the towns,

and in other thickly peopled localities. The largest of them is the Working men's library (Arbetarbiblioteket) in Stockholm, which is established and owned by a library association, formed by coöperation of the different associations of working men in the city. This library owns above 10,000v., and in 1901 there were made more than 45,000 book loans. It has been supported up to this time entirely by contributions from the working men themselves, but has now been voted a grant from the community, which in 1902 amounted to 3000 kronor. The library was then moved into apartments especially fitted up for the purpose in the People's palace, which has been erected by the Trades' union league for the cultivation of the working people. This library is of interest not only for its considerable size and the diligence with which it is made use of, but also for its being founded and conducted exclusively by the working men themselves.

Other association libraries of significance in Stockholm are those of the Workmen's institute (Arbetarinstitutet), and of the old Workmen's association for all the trades (Arbetarföreningen).

Among the students at the University of Uppsala two societies have been formed, called Verdandi and Heimdal (the one of a more liberal trend, the other more conservative), which are working with great energy for the development of people's libraries. They have published catalogs of suitable books, they facilitate purchases at a reduced rate, and provide for the publication of popular scientific pamphlets.

The library of University of Uppsala was founded in the reign of Gustav Adolph, who was a valuable patron of it. It has received large collections of ms. and books which Swedish kings have brought home from their campaigns. It is most liberally administered.

In the Swedish common schools the General association of Swedish common school teachers has worked for the instituting of pupils' libraries, which thus through the pupils are accessible also to elder brothers and sisters and parents.

The Library of the American University

James H. Canfield, Columbia University, New York city

It is a most serious mistake to believe that the earlier immigration to the American colonies brought only an inferior class—inferior in general culture, in specific education as preparation for the various walks of life, in general appreciation of all those things which appeal to the higher tastes. Our forbears were men of learning, and as a class are to be regarded as far beyond the average immigrant of today. Any one who will study carefully the history of those earlier days, especially as set forth in correspondence and in those other ways which throw so much light upon family life and social conditions, will discover that there was a large amount of refinement, and even of luxury, within the limits of the first century of life in the New World.

It was this appreciation of training and learning and culture which led to the early establishment of Harvard and Yale and Princeton and Columbia and William and Mary, and the other somewhat minor institutions of learning which were known before the outbreak of the revolution; and it was this learning and culture on their own part which led these founders of higher education in the new world to reckon libraries as integral and necessary parts of these educational organizations.

Until a somewhat recent day, these libraries have continued as they began, growing through the intelligent consideration and large generosity of individuals, graduates and others. While it is entirely true that to many of these collections came books of little or no present value; and while, undoubtedly, at times they have been the victims of the housecleaning spirit developed in families which were no longer interested in the private libraries of their ancestors and thought that their room was better than their company, it is undoubtedly true that by far the greater number of these early donations and bequests were given in good faith, with generous self-

sacrifice, and in their day and generation were collections of interest and value. If it be true that a certain American university has 100,000v. on its shelves which have rarely been disturbed during the last half century, this is not at all because these volumes were of small and indifferent value from the start, but because along most lines of thought the world of today has far outrun the world of yesterday.

The history of the library of any American college or university, even one of somewhat modern date, is almost absolutely identical with the history of every other, because of the similarity in thought and purpose and condition. The smaller libraries of the younger colleges of the west have been built up, and are being built up, through the solicitous care and generous sacrifice of a comparatively few persons, precisely as was true in earlier days of the libraries of the now larger colleges and universities along the eastern coast; and as they have grown up together, along similar lines and under similar conditions, in purpose and place and administration and value they stand side by side today with such marked similarity that there is little to distinguish them except the number of volumes or the completeness of the collection in any specific department.

The rapid development of the science and art of education during, say, the last 30 years, has made necessary an enlarged educational vocabulary. Such words and phrases as "research," "investigation," "sources," "laboratory methods," "original work," as well as the multiplication of the more common technical terms ending in "ic," "al," and "ology"—all these and more indicate the change which has come in both theory and practice.

In no one direction is this change more noticeable than in the new value placed upon educational equipment, instruction apparatus, the innumerable "aids" and "helps" which are so freely used in every grade of work, from kindergarten to graduate study. The earlier recognition of all this came, natu-

rally enough, in the lower grades, and the first use was to stimulate and quicken immature minds. Recognition and use were scant enough at first; but there is full measure of practical appreciation now all along the line, and that classroom—even that of the classics—is but poorly equipped which has not such illustrative apparatus as maps, charts, photographs, and lanterns, while skill and ingenuity and resourcefulness and expenditure are lavished upon science laboratories without stint or appreciable limit.

All this has exerted a very marked influence upon the policy and management of the college and university libraries. In the earlier day, and that not so remarkably remote, the place and value of these libraries was understood after a fashion, but not at all after the present fashion. There was little required collateral reading; students were left almost entirely to their own choice (a freedom which is not without its value); the libraries were poorly classified and arranged; the administration was not remarkable for its efficiency; the collections were accessible on certain days of the week only, and quite often only on certain hours of those days; and there was little to attract and much to repel the investigator. All this occurred in a period which, perhaps, ought not to be called a period of indifference, but which was at least a period of indifferent success, a period within which the vital influence of the library was at a low ebb. It is hardly too much to say that the present thought and the new activity in the library world date back not more than a quarter of a century.

The scientific temper, the scientific method so-called, and rightly so-called, has much to do with the present library status, and is also entitled to great credit. Indeed the advance in library methods has simply kept pace with the advance in all other educational methods, and all of these are under a bond of obligation to the scientists, though the bond may not have quite the face value which the scientists themselves sometimes assert.

But the demonstration of the value of the laboratory method, and of its possible use and its profitable use in all branches of teaching, at once made those in charge of libraries responsible for the development of ways and means by which the library could become the one great laboratory for all workers in the college or university.

It has often been pointed out that a university library ministers to the needs of three quite different classes—officers, graduate students, and undergraduate students. Considering these in the reverse order, the demands of the undergraduate are quite specifically limited to what may be called general literature, the works of power, and to such reading as he is required to do in connection with his daily classroom routine.

It is entirely within bounds to say that eight or ten thousand volumes, carefully chosen, would form an entirely efficient and satisfactory working library for undergraduates, and half that number would easily cover all the required collateral reading of a large institution. It must not be thought that this statement implies an undervaluation of the library work of undergraduates; quite the contrary is true. The spirit which in earlier days restricted undergraduates even in Columbia to a weekly visit in charge of an instructor, or which prompted the librarian of one of the great Irish universities to say recently, quite indignantly, "No provision made for students? Why should provision be made for students? They have all they can do to take care of their daily work"; is the spirit of a past which is very dead indeed. But it is true that the time of the undergraduate is quite completely absorbed in work which is laid down for him on definite lines. His opportunity for general reading is small, therefore, and, during the first half of his course at least, the required collateral reading is all that he can be expected to carry, and is enough to give him all desirable insight into nearly every form of literature which he is then able to examine with fair promise of either interest or understanding.

For the work of officers and graduate students, it is hardly possible to bring together too many aids or to make any collection too large or too complete. Of course, this demand varies with the number of those making it, and varies also very materially with the breadth of the instruction offered, increasing precisely as the total number of courses offered increases. While it is entirely true that a university may and does expect every officer to provide reasonably for his own immediate and personal and what may be called private needs, there is an immense field in which he must labor for success, for which labor the university must see that he has the best possible equipment. It is a mistake to consider this as entirely personal to the instructor, because every student under him needs ample reference facilities along the same lines; and as to special subjects, it is impossible to determine just what theme a graduate student may undertake. In periodicals and serials, in which the last word, though rarely the final word, is spoken, a university library must be peculiarly rich if it is to be helpful to its officers and keep its instruction up to date. This is quite as true of that portion of the library which covers the humanities as of that portion which is devoted to science. In a day like this, when the best thought of the world is put in such shape, it is impossible to refuse to enlarge the subscription list to the very limit of ordinary resources—even beyond the limits of ordinary resources.

There must be, then, a comparatively small library for each department for the special use of all officers in the department; and in addition the university must collect largely—as largely as possible—in every field of knowledge. And this for the graduate as well as for the officer, in a certain sense perhaps more than for the officer, although the interests of both are inextricably and helpfully interwoven.

In the use of these great collections, and possibly in the purchase of these, attention and consideration must be given to the wants of a certain portion

of the general and outside public. It should be the pleasure as it is the duty of every university library to minister to all scholarly wants and to advance all scholarly endeavor. It is not only wise from the standpoint of a possible return to the community which is maintaining the institution, but is good policy (to say nothing more) for two reasons. First, because all good work helps all other good work, and a general advance of scholarly standards and scholarly attainments adds to the interest in the institution, to the intelligence and readiness with which its appeals for financial assistance are met, and to that appreciation of its place and value which is shown by a constantly increasing number of students. Second, because its own graduates are scattered far and wide in the land, and may and do find it exceedingly desirable to have access to libraries wherever they may be, which when secured is the ground for a certain inter-institutional courtesy by which similar favors are extended by the home library to all college-bred men within reach. The mutual interest of college men is greatly strengthened and its effectiveness is largely advanced by this attitude, common to all college and university libraries of any standing.

Recognizing these conditions as constant factors, and these demands as imperative, the general methods of library administration in colleges and universities of recognized standing do not differ materially. The policy may be summed up in the single statement that the sole aim of the librarian and of his assistants is the general efficiency of the library and the convenience and comfort of those who use it. These library workers are in the library world what the straight line is in geometry—the shortest distance between two-points, the book and the reader. The rules which cover the use of these libraries ought to be, and generally are, few in number and exceedingly simple, and are constantly modified to meet extraordinary or unusual demands. Quite generally the open-shelf system prevails, with the general result of a wide-

open library in which all move with the utmost freedom compatible with the rights and convenience and comfort of all, and the general security of property. It is on the administrative side, perhaps, that there is found the greatest difference between the libraries of the new world and the libraries of the old world. In organization, in rapidity of service, in ease of access, in comfort and convenience of use, the American college library stands far in advance of similar collections in either Great Britain or Europe at large.

In nearly all American libraries there are close and continuous relations between the faculty and other officers of the university and the librarian and his staff. The relations between the various administrative departments of the library of any American educational institution and the officers of the institution are generally exceedingly helpful. There is a very decided gain in this form of coöperation, and a gain which adds much to the efficiency of library administration. As a matter of fact, this results in placing at the service of the library staff the constant and competent advice of the heads of the various departments as well as other instructional officers. Practically, this means an increase of the staff itself by a large number of most expert workers animated not only by general interest but by personal and departmental motives as well. While it is entirely true that this form of coöperation is not always free from friction, the general results are invaluable, and are mutually helpful and stimulating.

In closing this article, it may be of interest to the reader to learn of the present status of a few of the more noted libraries of the colleges and universities in this country. Recent returns, very courteously made by those in charge, give the status of 14 such libraries on July 1 of the current year as follows:

	Bound vols.	Unbound vols. and pamphlets
Harvard	670,000	390,000
University of Chicago	401,000	200,000

Columbia	363,000	100,000
Yale	315,000	300,000
Cornell	286,500	46,500
University of Pennsylvania	200,700	50,000
Princeton	181,800	48,000
Brown university	130,000	30,000
University of California	124,111	
Johns Hopkins	117,400	100,000
Amherst	810,000	25,000
Leland Stanford university	80,818	25,000
University of Nebraska	65,000	13,000
Williams	52,000	20,000

Some of these statements are necessarily estimates or approximates, and "round numbers" have been used, but the reports may be accepted as generally correct, and as an interesting statement of the present actual and comparative status of these libraries.

The modern American university library, then, is everybody's workshop. It is the laboratory of laboratories; it is the university's great alembic; it is an enlarged and expanded faculty; it is the blessed company of the Immortals; it is the nth power of a university training; it is the true Pierian spring. Perhaps the most adequate description will be found in the assertion that it is the heart of the university.

A. L. A. Publishing Board

The A. L. A. publishing board has just issued a revised list of the periodicals and society publications for which it issues printed catalog cards prepared by the Boston public library, New York public library, John Crerar library, Harvard university library, Columbia university library. Several titles of the original list have been dropped because cards for them are now provided by the Library of congress. In place of those dropped, others have been added so that the total number of cards printed annually will be approximately the same as heretofore—about 3000. All new subscriptions begin with the current numbers. Special prices will be made on application.

The greater part of the publications covered by the list are to be found only in the larger public, college, or scientific libraries, but there are a number which are commonly taken by smaller public and college libraries.

On Dutch Libraries

D. Smit, librarian, Leesmuseum, Amsterdam

When asked to give an account of the library movement in Holland for the periodical *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, I confess that I felt no little at a loss, the number of free public libraries to be found in our country being so exceedingly small. While the state of Massachusetts has 351 towns with free libraries and two towns without them (*PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, 1904, no. 5, p. 214), there are in the whole kingdom of the Netherlands only two towns with such an institution.

The cause of our backwardness is partly the indifference of the bulk of the people toward public libraries, and partly the blameable economy of the authorities of state and town, who always fear to open the public purse for this purpose.

An example of the indifference of the public is shown in the fact that when about 20 years ago Toynbee-work made its entry in our country, in the town of Haarlem, which had then about 50,000 inhabitants, a free library was founded. But after a short time it had to be closed for want of interest.

Another proof that the Dutch people do not value public libraries is shown at Leiden, with a population of 55,000, where students have established a library for the people. The report of the year 1902 says: Though we may be content with the number of (student) members, the attendance of the *Volksleeszaal* (people's reading-room) by workmen is insignificant. Most of them ask for books from the library, but in spite of the many newspapers, in spite of illustrated papers and facilities for playing games and for conversation, the number of visitors is small.

Though we have so very few free public libraries, it must not be thought that we have hardly any libraries. On the contrary, almost in each town there are some. Besides some greater libraries, there are many small ones. Clubs of post-office officials, clerks, railway officials, policemen, have their own libraries, just as almost every society, polit-

ical or social. Every garrison has its collection of books, and of the school libraries, many parents read the books brought home by their youngsters.

At the head of all the libraries in Holland must be mentioned our national library, the *Koninklijke bibliotheek*, at The Hague. There are at present, in round numbers, 500,000 v., between 40,000 and 50,000 pamphlets, and about 4000 manuscripts. Among the pamphlets there are a great many of inestimable value to the student of Dutch history. Under the management of the learned librarian, Dr Bijvanck, the use of it is rapidly increasing. The number of visitors increased from 26,000 in 1900 to 36,000 in 1901, 48,000 in 1902, and 50,000 in 1903. In the last year, the number of books consulted was 115,147, or about 20,000 more than in the year 1902. The number of books lent out was 20,206. It is only by the diligence and assiduity of the small number of officials that they can get through the large amount of work entailed by this great increase.

The library is open all working days from 10 to 4 (except in December and January when it is open to 3 p.m.), and from September 15 to June 15 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, from 7 to 10 p.m. Books can be had for a period of two weeks by inhabitants of The Hague, and for a month by every Dutchman outside this town. The government voted lately a sum of 300,000 florins (\$120,000) for an enlargement of the building in which the library is located. When the rebuilding is completed, a reading-room for 84 persons will give sufficient room to consult the very rich stock of books on all subjects which this library contains. The budget of the library is about 52,000 florins; 26,700 florins for salaries for the librarian and his assistants, and 31,500 florins for necessities, copy-work, periodicals, books, and binding. Of all the books sent in by the publishers at the Office of justice in order to have their rights reserved, the Royal library receives one copy, which, however, may not be lent out. Other libraries of which the

government pays the expenses are the libraries of the universities at Leiden, Utrecht and Groningen. According to the last budget, the total amount voted for the support of these three libraries is 47,000 florins (\$18,800). The total amount voted for the support of the library of the Municipal university in Amsterdam is 36,000 florins a year. Out of this amount the bills for cleaning, heating, lighting, and water, the salaries of the librarian and his assistants, repairing furniture, and binding are paid, and the library gets what is left. The contents of these libraries are first of all works for the use of students. They all have a reading-room in which the works of reference are placed and where the books that may not be lent out can be consulted. Newspapers or illustrations are nowhere to be found. The libraries of the universities in Leiden, Utrecht, and Groningen are open to the public every working day from 10 to 4 (in winter time to 3) and on holidays from 1 to 3 p. m. The University library in Amsterdam is open daily, except on Sundays, from 9.30 to 5, and from 7 to 10 p. m. Though books from these libraries can be had by everyone who asks for them, it is seldom that they are requested by the people.

It is the *Maatschappij tot Nut van't Algemeen* (Society for the promotion of the general good) which has done so much for the promotion of the education of the people, that has tried to reach the people by establishing libraries for them.

In 1793, the first library of this society was opened at Haarlem, and in a short time several other towns followed the example set by Haarlem. According to the last annual report, 308 libraries and 34 libraries for the young have been founded in several places where branches of the society are established. Especially in villages and in the country, good books are in this manner given into the hands of the people, and very much has been done for the education of a great many of our citizens. It is a great pity that the society cannot spend more for the support of the libraries, but

as neither the government nor any municipality has ever voted a florin for support, it is impossible to do as much as might be wished.

In general these libraries contain very much unserviceable and antiquated material, so that a person aiming at intellectual development does not find there what is necessary. Besides, there are at these libraries other conditions which prevent a universal use, viz—the few hours in which they are open; the localities where they are sheltered and which are generally used for other purposes also; the insufficient catalogs which make their use more difficult; and lastly, the lack of reading-rooms in almost all these libraries. According to the report of 1903, there are now five of these libraries which have reading-rooms.

Not only in the Royal library and in the university libraries, but also in the libraries of several clubs and societies, scientific works are to be found. Some of these, called *Leesmuseums*, have reading-rooms where daily papers in the modern languages, and periodicals on different matters and in different languages can be consulted, and where the best reference works are shelved. The largest of these institutions are in Amsterdam and Rotterdam. The Amsterdam leesmuseum has opened this year a new building, and is now in all respects as excellent and comfortable an institution as may be desired. As, however, these clubs are private institutions (the membership costs from four to ten dollars a year) the use of the collections of books is limited.

In Amsterdam, the society *Ons huis* (Our home), where *Toynbee-work* is practiced on a large scale, has a well-appointed reading-room and a library which contains works of greater value than the other libraries for the people. Though steadily increasing, the use of the reading-room is insignificant.

A contribution of 1 florin (40 cents) a year is paid by the visitors of the reading-room and of one-fourth florin (10 cents) for the use of the library. Though we have here a public library arranged

on the plan of the American and English institutions, it is not a free public library. Free public libraries are only possessed by the towns of Dordrecht and Groningen. In the former town, the library opened its doors in May, 1899. Everyone can visit the rooms free of charge, but there are many persons who give some contribution. Now, after an existence of five years, it may be said that the undertaking has perfectly succeeded. The total of the daily visitors has gradually increased from 15 in May, 1899, to 150 to 200 nowadays. Among them are teachers, clerks, merchants, governesses, seamen, etc. The library is open daily (Sundays included) from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. In the reading-room are 150 newspapers and 75 periodicals; on the shelves are now about 15,000v., to 2500 in 1901. This great increase was the result of many private clubs placing their collections of books in this library. Besides the books on the shelves, the visitors can consult the books of different other private clubs and persons through the medium of the chief of the public library.

A few months since, a library for the young was added to the library. Its books may be taken home for 1 cent (Dutch currency) a week a volume.

Last year the municipality of Dordrecht refused to give for the support of the library the sum of 500 florins (\$200), but granted to the library the free use of the rooms of the municipal museum—the pictures being removed to a new building—and the sum of 300 florins for installation. The municipality presents copies of all reports and by-laws and informs the officials of all cases of contagious disease occurring among the inhabitants of the town, in order to prevent their being supplied with books from the library. Our second free public library was opened on Oct. 7, 1903, in the town of Groningen. The initiative for the establishment was taken by the managers of a local newspaper, the *Nieuwe Groningen courant*, while the representative of the town in parliament gave some 5000 florins to it. The library contains a newspaper room, a

room for periodicals, and a writing-room. About 90 newspapers and 25 periodicals are now to be had, while 2500v. are in stock. Immediately after the library was opened, the visitors were so numerous that there was continually want of room. From Oct. 7, 1903, to July 1, 1904, 42,700 persons (37,400 men and 5300 women) visited the rooms.

On the request for a subsidy, the municipality answered in the negative.

Dordrecht, thus, is the first and only town in the Netherlands which gives any support for a free library and acknowledges such an institution to be in the interests of the public. Religious influences often oppose public libraries. In the discussion held in the town council of Dordrecht, on the proposal to subsidize the free public library, one of the members declared against it because such a library was not in the interests of all citizens, especially not in that of catholics.

Many towns have their own library, the town library. As a rule these collections are little frequented, the immediate cause being the antiquated books which they contain, and partly, also, the inconvenient times they are open.

In June, 1902, Rotterdam decided to open the town library daily (including Sundays) from 10 a. m. to 4 or 5 p. m. The total of visitors, which during the first month after this decision was 380, increased to 3445 in October, 1903. Of these 50 per cent were laborers, 25 per cent clerks, and the rest merchants, scholars, teachers, etc. In June, 1904, the number amounted to 3111.

Unnecessary to say that schools for the training of librarians in the technical part of their work are totally unknown in our country. Even in our well-managed libraries we find, along with really capable men, many who know nothing of cataloging, classification, binding, etc. It will not be long, however, before authorities will understand that librarians can not be made by experience only, and that it is just as important to have good librarians as to have good teachers.

Swiss Libraries *

Mary E. Hawley, John Crerar library, Chicago

The beginnings of the library movement in Switzerland, as everywhere north of the Alps, are to be found in the monasteries, principally in those of the Benedictine order, to which the most important of the still existing monastic libraries may be traced back.

With the invention of printing and the dawn of the renaissance arose a more active demand for the collection of books. Reformation and counter-reformation created in the sixteenth century a series of libraries and began a period of library development continued to about 1750. Representatives of this period are, on the one hand, the older of the still existing Stadt- or Bürgerbibliotheken, belonging in part to library associations, but maintained by favor of the authorities, and universally of a scholarly character; and, on the other, a series of ecclesiastical libraries, partly of reformed, partly of catholic origin. Among the former may be mentioned that of Bern (after 1528), St Gall (Vadian's bequest, 1551), Geneva (Bibliothèque publique, 1551 or 1568), Zurich (1629), which has maintained the character of a society institution in its essential features down to the present day, Schaffhausen (1636), Winterthur (1660), Zofingen (1693), Thun (1696).

The ecclesiastical libraries of the reformers were scholarly, theological collections, like the church library at Basel (1529), now incorporated in the University library; the Library of the academy at Lausanne (1536), now in the cantonal library; the still existing Pastor's library in Neuchâtel, and others.

On the catholic side, the Jesuits and Capuchins, as leaders and spokesmen

of the counter-reformation, developed great activity along library lines, not exclusively theological in character, but which served the purposes of the church all the better on that account. The libraries of the Jesuit colleges at Lucerne (1577), and Fribourg (1580-1581), afterwards formed the basis of the cantonal libraries in those places. Especially noteworthy, both for their influence and the size of their collections, are the convent libraries of the Capuchins. Some of these in 1868 contained as many as 11,000v., and of those founded between 1565 and 1672 not less than 17 are still existing.

Beginning with the "period of enlightenment" in the middle of the eighteenth century, a new wave is noticeable. In the cities it brings increased demands for culture, causing in the smaller ones new libraries to arise which are not so much scholarly as for general culture; while in the larger ones, existing libraries are supplemented by new institutions devoted to contemporary literature and the diffusion of political news. This period ends with 1798. An interesting list of typical libraries of this period must be omitted for lack of space.

The nineteenth century opens with a hitherto undreamed of development. Of the 1786 libraries whose dates Heitz was able definitely to determine, not less than 1700 fall in the period 1801-1870.

Unlike the earlier ones, most of these new creations are state institutions. In the various cantons, libraries, scientific in tendency, are started in connection with the schools for intermediate and higher education, briefly known as Kantonsbibliotheken. The library of the Polytechnikum in Zurich forms an exception to its class, being connected not with a cantonal but a federal institution. One representative each of the groups of city and government libraries must be mentioned as belonging to this period: The Bürgerbibliothek of Lucerne (1809), which from the beginning, though not quite consciously, developed as a Helvetica

*The most available recent source of general information as to Swiss libraries is an article prepared by Dr Hermann Escher, librarian-in-chief of the City library of Zurich, for the Handwörterbuch der schweizerischen volkswirtschaft, sozialpolitik und verwaltung, also published as a pamphlet reprint, Bern, Verlag Encyclopädie, 1902. For the early history and library development up to 1868, Dr Escher makes free use of Dr Ernst Heitz's work, Die öffentlichen bibliotheken der Schweiz im Jahr 1868 nach von der Schweizerischen statistischen Gesellschaft gesammelten material; Basel 1872. These notes culled from the above may add interest to the "foreign number" of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

collection, and the Federal central library at Bern, which, like our own Congressional library, has long since outgrown the limits of a specialized collection for the different branches of the government.

The period from 1800 to 1868 seems to show an extraordinary attempt to meet the reading needs of "all sorts and conditions of men," not as with us in comprehensive, centralized institutions, but by providing each class or group of interests—military, commercial, labor, or what not—with its own little collections of books. There is the library of the Young men's evangelical association on the one hand, and that of the Pius association on the other. The upward struggle of new social classes since the middle of the century finds its expression in the libraries of the Konsumvereine, the Grütlivereine, and other labor organizations. These mirror the efforts of their founders and patrons, some aiming at general culture, others emphasizing more the political or social side, but least of all the technical.

This endless division of resources and energy appears plainly in the work of Heitz, who gives a total, in 1868, of 2090 libraries, 84 of which failed to respond to his inquiries. The inclusion of a library in Heitz's list depended, first, on whether it had any provision for the preservation and opening of its collection, and secondly, whether the express purpose was the satisfying of the demand for reading, of whatever character, of any considerable and varying number of people. Dr Escher observes in this connection that it is no doubt difficult to define the conception of a public library, still more to formulate that of a library which is so at the disposal of the masses in general that it can be regarded as a part of the great national book treasure. Doubtless a wide interpretation is better than a narrow one, but this of Heitz, which takes in collections of less than 100v.—indeed, some of 18, 15, or a dozen—is so broad that it swells the material quite unduly, and makes any comparative

treatment of it well-nigh impossible.

The distribution of the 2096 libraries which responded to Heitz's inquiries is quite unequal. The canton of Zurich had the largest number 262; Aargau 252, Waadt 247, Bern 222, while the mountain region had naturally but few: Graubunden 12, and Wallis 15, plus 3 and 6 respectively that were not heard from. In proportion to the population, Solothurn and Schaffhausen were best provided for, one having 165, the other 69 libraries, or 474 and 516 inhabitants to each library; Tessin, on the other hand had 5981, and Switzerland as a whole, 1200.

The total number of books was, in round numbers, 2,500,000 or 93.3 to each 100 of the population. Naturally, the local distribution of the books did not coincide entirely with that of the libraries. The largest collections were in the cities of Basel and Geneva, with Obwalden next; 390, 252, and 209v. per 100 persons. In French Switzerland there were 110.1, in German Switzerland, 91.5, and in Italian, only 24.2.

The average number of volumes per library was 1250. The largest was the Zurich city library, 100,000v.; then came the University library at Basel, 94,000; the Cantonal library at Lucerne, 80,000; the Public library in Geneva, 75,000; the Société de lecture of the same city, 62,000; the cantonal libraries of Aarau and Lausanne, and the Public library of Neuchâtel, each 60,000.

But we linger too long over these interesting statistics, from which the general conclusion may be drawn that though Switzerland possessed, in 1868, and possesses today, no very large libraries, she has in her centers of culture some notable book treasures and a goodly number of lesser collections, while the characteristic feature of her library development lies in the fact that few even of the small places are without a library.

In the years since Heitz's work was compiled there has been marked development. The schools, notwithstanding the lengthening of the school period, are no longer able to keep pace with the

amazing extension in all domains of knowledge and human activity. Self-instruction through books forms more and more the absolutely necessary supplement to the knowledge acquired in schools, while the rise of the lower classes to a freer, more assured economic existence causes a striving for culture that reaches out to books for its satisfaction and is doubtless one of the characteristic features of our day. With this striving for increased culture is united that for higher entertainment. To satisfy both these demands is the task of the library. Library development has met these conditions chiefly in four ways:

1 By a notable extension in the direction of scholarly libraries. Three new cantonal libraries have been erected: the Hochschulbibliothek in Bern, developed from the Students' library of 1730, and the Kantonsbibliotheken of Obwalden and Solothurn. Existing institutions, particularly in the larger cities, have grown—in some cases have even doubled. Fourteen of the libraries uniting in the Zurich alphabetical union catalog possessed in 1868 about 185,000v., in 1901, they had in this catalog some 400,000 titles and cross references representing, perhaps, 480,000v. Five smaller libraries included in this "central catalog" did not exist in 1868. Probably the largest collection at the present time is that of the University of Basel (230,000v.). The use during the same period has increased in some localities five-fold. A new category of scholarly libraries marks this period: the reference collections for university institutes and seminaries.

2 In trade or industrial libraries connected with the new trade-schools and industrial museums. These promote special culture in a way far different from that of the old guild libraries, and possess no inconsiderable collections of books and designs, even though in certain directions, technology for example, they leave much to be desired. Such libraries in connection with schools are to be found in Basel and Geneva; connected with museums, in Aarau, Bern, St Gall and Zurich.

3 The influence of the great free public library movement of England and America shows itself in plans for reorganization in many of the larger cities, not in the extension of existing scholarly institutions to modern union libraries, but in new establishments to serve for general culture. Especially deserving of mention are the Volksbibliotheken of Basel, a series of simply equipped ward libraries under one management, to which a central library has recently been added, and the public library of the Pestalozzi society in Zurich formed by the merging of 10 libraries. This, which was originally a centralized library with scattered delivery stations, now seeks rather to establish branch libraries. The American and English ideal of a library with reading-room and circulating department under one roof has not yet found embodiment here.

4 Lastly, in the attention to native literature. By federal decree, June 24, 1894, a special national library, located at Bern, was created for the purpose of collecting publications and literary material relating to Switzerland or any part of it, and likewise the important works of every sort produced by Swiss authors, since 1848, the date of federal reconstruction. For Helvetica of the earlier period, the Bürgerbibliothek at Lucerne was made the federal depository. This library, though not possessed of the largest collection, had, as already mentioned, made a specialty from its foundation of the collecting of Helvetica.

Let me mention parenthetically here that this National library at Bern has occupied, since November, 1899, a fine new building, housing also the national archives. The use of this collection is absolutely free, and residents of any part of Switzerland can have sent to them, without formalities or other expense than the cost of transportation, as many as six volumes at a time.

Since it was evident that even these two repositories of Helvetica could never include all the material, provision was also made for a third undertaking to complete the centralized representa-

tion of national literature, namely, the preparation of a reference catalog, which should list all the works of this nature in other collections.

Nor was this the only bibliographical work projected. Many American librarians are doubtless familiar with the monthly *Bibliographisches bulletin der Schweiz*, which is at once a list of accessions to the National library and a bibliography of new publications, Swiss in character by their contents, publisher, place of printing, authorship, or what not.

In Switzerland, as elsewhere, it is characteristic of the modern period that the establishment and maintenance of libraries is regarded more than ever before as a work, nay a duty, for the community as a whole. State and municipality have largely increased their appropriations for library purposes, though the standards of some other countries have not yet been reached. In this connection, it must not be forgotten that literary production has so enormously increased that a three-fold increase in book funds would be necessary to keep pace with it.

Gifts from private individuals have always come in a gratifying way to Swiss libraries. Many owe to such gifts their most prized collections, others their very origin. Still others, like the City library in Zurich, have had their funds materially increased by endowments. Basel owes half of the fund for its new library building to free contributions. Zofingen is indebted for its new library and museum building to a single generous-hearted citizen, and Zurich has recently received a large contribution for building purposes.

The change from the old system of high shelving to the modern book-stack with low cases has been made in many of the more important libraries within the last decades. In all such points, says Dr Escher, Switzerland follows the lead of her neighbors, but in one respect she can claim a certain preëminence, and that is the widespread use of the printed catalog, with frequent reissue and regular supple-

ments. The prevailing form of catalog is the alphabetical. The doctrine that every library should have both an alphabetical and a subject catalog is still far from actual embodiment, but subject catalogs are in preparation in some of the larger libraries. The National library and the City library of Zurich simultaneously chose the dictionary, catchword form in preference to the classified.

Librarianship in Switzerland is becoming more and more recognized as a calling worthy of one's whole time and energy, and requiring special training and preparation, but in too many libraries the staff is so small that its members have little time for the study of general library interests or the deepening and broadening of their own attainments in a way to benefit the public. In the matter of organization the Swiss librarians anticipated the German, a Swiss library association having been formed in 1897.

It seems evident from even this fragmentary survey that future development is likely to be in the direction of local centralization, or at least increased coöperation. Movements in this sense are already apparent. Zurich, where the multiplication of separate libraries and consequent waste of energy were particularly in evidence, has already some excellent coöperative achievements to its credit: a union periodical list of accessions and the before-mentioned alphabetical central catalog. A union building is also projected for that city.

Another future problem of coöperation grows out of the diversity of race and language in this composite little state. Heitz claimed that the libraries of German Switzerland bought only German, those of French Switzerland only French works. This probably is, and largely will be, true for the merely popular libraries. The scientific or scholarly libraries, however, can not neglect works in other languages, and the consequent tax on their resources makes some form of mutual agreement that may lighten the burden distinctly desirable.

The Popular Libraries in Finland

A. A. Granfelt, Helsingfors, Finland

The Finnish people is one of the youngest peoples of culture of the world. Its language was not used in writing before the middle of the sixteenth century, and for a long time almost exclusively in the religious literature. Fifty years ago the worldly literature in Finnish language was still extremely insignificant, compared with the religious one, but since that time there has been great progress.

When we examine the state of the libraries in our land we find, however, some endeavor to create a library even in Finnish language, and that already in the beginning of the last century (in Anjala). This endeavor remained unnoticed; the good example had no influence under those circumstances.

More than 40 years later, when there existed a little germ of a newspaper literature in Finnish language, a man of the people, Juho Pynninen, in Wiborg, who was not school-bred at all himself, but who, after having all by himself acquired knowledge of writing, had got an employment in a timber house of his place, undertook to found a popular library and sent, enthusiastic for the subject, many essays to the weekly paper of the place. What gave him that thought? In the town existed, it is true, from the year 1808, a circulating library for the German and Swedish burghers who lived there, but Pynninen was not likely to know any of these languages. A little collection of money, and the library began its activity in the year 1846 with 222 books, of which 124 were religious ones. All the books treat different subjects, Pynninen says with delight of his library. During the first year of the library's existence the number of readers was 41.

In a lately published little book* entitled *Suomen Kansankirjastot* (The popular libraries of Finland) L. Schadewitz mentions that in the years 1846 and 1847 five libraries were founded, of which three were by the government of Wiborg. In the year 1848 four libraries

were founded, and in the year 1849 seven.

During the following two decenniums the number of libraries rose very slowly; every year a few were founded. In the years 1850-1859, 50 libraries were founded; 1860-1869 up to 165, all in the country. The idea spread from parish to parish under the protection of the clergy and of all those enthused for promulgation of knowledge. The great country and public was comparatively indifferent. Yet even among the country people without any school breeding there were men who, like Pynninen, were friends of instruction and progress.

We must remember that the degree of culture of the country people half a century ago was quite different from today's. We have already mentioned what sort of literature was offered them. No common schools existed yet; the first training institution for common-school teachers in Finland was founded in the year 1863. The knowledge of reading, though, was general, because no one was admitted to the confirmation who did not know spelling. But for want of exercise this knowledge was in most cases rather insignificant, if not forgotten. When we pass from 1850 to 1860, we observe a considerable growth in the library department. Most important were the years 1860, 1861, and 1862, or the years just before the opening of the first training institution in Finland for common-school teachers. During each of these years about 30 libraries were founded; but thereafter the zeal visibly abated.

How the library conditions generally turned out and developed in the course of time, the following description ought to give a somewhat true picture. At some private party, where chiefly the upper classes were represented, the library question was debated. The general opinion, at least among those who have anything to say, is that a library should be founded in the parish, as such are already founded in some other places. A

**Suomen Kansankirjastot*, Esittänyt, L. Schadewitz, Helsingissä, 29.23. Kansanvalistusseura. The popular libraries in Finland, by L. Schadewitz. In Helsingfors 1903, Society for public instruction.

list for collection of money is started and somebody is trusted with the ordering of books and the fixing of the lending rules, if any rules at all are regarded as necessary. Somebody, very often the young parson, has to receive the charge of a librarian as another as fit person is hardly to be found; the parson already, because of his office, coming into daily contact with the people, and there being no other school-bred persons in the parish. Books are procured, perhaps about 100v., and these are lodged in the parsonage, sometimes in the sacristy. The lending is not over lively, the whole thing being unknown to the people, and the art of reading not much more than that. When, after New Year's, the time of the parish catechization comes, the parson, young and zealous, puts the whole library in a chest and takes it with him, and in every farm where the parishioners assemble he offers them books as a loan. Then, of course, there are persons who, driven by curiosity, borrow books for the parson's sake if not for other causes. Thus the library became known to the people, but one or another of the borrowers supplied in that manner perhaps got so acquainted with his book that he never remembered to bring it back.

The time passed, the parson left the parish, and another, whom the thing did not amuse as much, came in his stead. He also got the library into his charge, but few came and asked for books; neither did the parson press them upon anyone; why, in the library was to be found all sorts of literature—Kalevala, pure paganism, and nonsensical stuff, as, for instance, the tales of Münchhausen. Old religious devotional literature was lent out if someone asked for it. Thus conducted, the whole library soon fell into oblivion.

In that manner things went on until a new change of parson. The new parson perhaps found the old library in rather a good condition in the cupboard where his predecessor had left it; or it would happen that the new common-school master learned that the remains of the old library lay moist and half

molded in the sacristy of the church; or they were discovered in some garret. However it may be, the matter is submitted to the vestry meeting with the proposition that of the means of the parish a sum should be granted for restoration of the library. The members of the meeting remember that there once has been such an institution, that books have been borrowed from it, and that it has been praised. So money is granted; the sum indeed is not over great, but it is the first time that the municipal means have been solicited and given for such a purpose, and it was, however, sufficient for a reparation of old worn-out books, and, moreover, for a purchase of new ones. Even now they get the bibliothecary for nothing. Now the borrowing is already livelier than during the first period of the library.

The vestry meeting thought it had done a good work and that it had brought the library matter on a good footing for ever so long a time, but when are people satisfied? The books grew old, the borrowing diminished to insignificance when the most interested readers had gone through the whole store of books, and the librarian grew tired of it. The library was once more in danger of falling into desuetude.

During that time new schools had been opened; a club for the youth had been founded in the parish, as well as a temperance society; journals began to come into one house after another; the life of the people, and especially that of the youth, began in most respects to take quite a different form than hitherto. In the time of the elder generation the upper classes were interested for public instruction, many no doubt rather indifferently, others from the very bottom of their hearts. Now the people itself works for the promulgation of knowledge, and debates the means of it. Even now the zeal is mitigated, but the Club of the youth founds its own library from which books may be lent to all who live in the parish, the library of the parish being in so bad a condition that everybody is ashamed to speak of it and since the old men of the vestry

meeting do not give a penny to the benefit of it. And ere long a second, and even a third, library arises in the outlying districts of the parish.

Now even the members of the county assembly awake. For the benefit of the parished library a temporary subsidy is granted, and the bibliothecary gets a salary of some 20 marks. But the new libraries which some enthusiasts have founded in the outlying districts of the parish, and for which a subsidy is also solicited, get nothing at all.

In this manner the library conditions in the country are gradually developed. In other places the parish has divided the chief library into smaller parts, of which each is placed in a different school; in some places temporary allowances are granted for the benefit of several libraries; now and then even yearly subsidies; sometimes nothing has been done yet. The circumstances are as varied as one can imagine.

As above mentioned, there were all in all founded 165 libraries during the years 1860-1869. During the following decennium, 145 new ones were founded, considerably less. The zeal begins visibly to abate. From 1880 to 1889 libraries were founded to the number of 237. A new time began to knock at the door, and in the following decennium it had already come. New libraries were founded during the period 1890-1899 up to 757. In the year 1900 there were founded 114. The following two years could not show so high a number, both together but 137; but we ought already to consider if it is more profitable to found new and little libraries, or if nowadays it would not be more important to develop those libraries which already exist, to institutions complete in their kind, or at least satisfying fair claims.

In what a state are now the libraries of Finland? From our account are omitted a great many libraries of which we do not know in what year they were founded, and, moreover, all town libraries. The number of our country libraries was in the year 1900, as far as we have knowledge of them, all counted, 1794, and the number of inhabitants in

our provinces being 2,371,000, there counts to every library 1321 inhabitants. If now the libraries were equally divided over the whole land, and our land closely inhabited, this proportion would perhaps be rather convenient. But, on the contrary, there are in some places libraries quite near to each other, and other places have no libraries at all.

All, or almost all, parishes of Finland have a library. Already in the year 1889, 400 parishes had libraries, and the total number of them was at that time 522. In the year 1900 there were libraries in 464 parishes, but the total number was then, as above mentioned, 1794. In the year 1889 there were 327 parishes which had but one library, and 60 that had no library at all. In the year 1900 the number of the former had dwindled down to 130, and that of the latter to four. Those parishes which now have but one library are for the most part so small that one good library no doubt would be quite sufficient for them; others are situated in the poorest parts of the north-most regions of Finland.

If we take only the number into consideration we could be quite satisfied. But of what kind are these libraries? Of course they are very different, also, as to the quantity of books, but the average number in each library is 241v. How valuable are the works procured for the library? Thereupon statistics reply that the average value of every book is 2 marks and 2 pennies more. Our provincial libraries are thus rather small, and of small value. About the fourth part of our libraries do not contain 100v., a little more than one-fourth contain 100 to 200v., one-third contain between 200 and 500v., and one-tenth contain more than that; so that only 1.5 per cent (28 libraries) contain about 2000v.

Why our libraries are so small is seen in the fact that still at least two-thirds of them exist without permanent income, and that they get subsidies neither from the parishes nor from elsewhere; their maintenance wholly depends upon whether their founders or

other interested persons can procure temporary allowances in any way for that purpose. Of that third which enjoy subsidies, 20 per cent get 50 finq or less as a salary for the bibliothecary, 40 per cent get as much, which they may employ at will, 30 per cent get more, and the rest, or 10 per cent, enjoy, no doubt, subsidies, though we do not know to what amount. And even these numbers show things better than they actually are. The economic state of a great many of the libraries is unknown to us; one third of the whole number is omitted from these statistics and if even most of them are without a subsidy, which is probable, the proportional number of them which have a subsidy is yet considerably diminished.

So the provincial libraries in Finland are little. They can not, of course, accomplish the great work which the honorary name, the "universities of the people," given to them presupposes. They also receive this name in conditions much more advanced than those which reign in Finland and in the midst of peoples who have both more literary treasures and material resources than we. The poor popular libraries of Finland are far from leading toward the university ways. Here no fully developed institution is to be found. On the contrary, but at the same time as the state of culture here has been developed in other respects, even this institution has grown and stricken strong roots even in the deepest ranks of our people, and now it flourishes abundantly. Thus, if but the soil is as good as we hope, it will yet become a leafy tree, a tree as good as others in the great park of popular libraries in the world.

The difference between our towns and the most populous parishes of the provinces in Finland is not great, as the towns generally are little. Most of the town libraries were founded about the year 1850 or 1860; even that of Helsingfors not earlier than 1859. The libraries of most towns are rather insignificant, but they all enjoy subsidies out of the funds of the towns, though to very different amounts. The library of Helsingfors is

now in a most prosperous state, and in the year 1880 its own house was built for it. There are, besides different lending rooms for Finnish and Swedish literature, reading-rooms for grown-up persons as well as for children, where journals, reviews, and picture books are at hand, but lecture materials there are not, nor a museum or a collection of pictures; neither are there rooms where bibliographical advices could be given to those who might wish to increase their knowledge. As for the commodities which are to be found in those better-supplied popular libraries in foreign countries, our public in general does scarcely yet miss them, and the library boards, indeed, do not demand that expenses should be made for such things.

The year's estimate of the popular library in Helsingfors amounts to about 50,000 marks in the year, which gives 50 penny for every inhabitant of the town. In connection with the library, three lending stations are established in the outskirts of the town.

The house of the popular library in Helsingfors was built with the gains of the retailment company (Gothenburg system) and that is the case in Wiborg, in which town, also, an especial house is given up to the library and reading-hall. In Abo a magnificent library house is built by means of private donation. The councillor of commerce, Fredr. von Rettig, has thereby earned an honorable place among the benefactors of that community. The estimate of costs of this house amounted to 300,000 finq, and besides that, the donor has every year given large sums for the enlargement of the book stock. Hence only half as much of the town's own means, as, for instance, Helsingfors gives to the benefit of its popular library, is employed here (25 penny on each inhabitant). In the same edifice both the popular library and the town library are lodged. This latter contains much literature of value even in foreign languages, which literature the public may also make use of. In other places special houses have not been built for the libraries.

More ample allowances have only

during the last decennium been given to our libraries, and especially to the provincial ones. Private societies, such as the Friends of the Finnish and Swedish common school, the Society for public instruction, the chief purpose of which besides that is the publishing of popular books, have granted such subsidies, and the different student corporations in Helsingfors have tried to produce new libraries. Since the year 1896 the Society for public instruction has regularly given contributions to the already existing libraries, which have seemed to serve their purpose in a satisfactory manner.

The society's program of donation was from the beginning fixed with the fact in view that by it libraries not only should be assisted, but that besides that the conditions of the libraries should be improved. Donations were not offered (collections of books generally of a value of about 50 fmg); they were granted only on application to already existing libraries which during the preceding years had shown activity by increasing their store of their own accord with books for at least the same sum. Moreover, statistics and other information concerning the conditions of each library were demanded. In that way the leading idea, that the success of the library lastly, however, depends upon self-acquired support and not upon outward assistance, was fortified by these donations and not the reverse, which often is the first fruit of an assistance offered from without. On the other hand a considerable store of documents throwing light upon the library conditions in Finland was gathered.

We still have to mention that the state now has granted an allowance of 5000 fmg for the benefit of the popular libraries, which subsidy also has been obtained by the Society for public instruction.

In the hands of the Society for public instruction the direction of the library matter seems to be at present. Every third year the society now convokes the bibliothecaries to a conference concerning the libraries, and next spring lectures, in which the newest means of man-

aging the catalogs and the out-lending are described, will be held in connection with such an assembly of librarians. Every year the society publishes catalogs of Finnish literature fit for the popular libraries, as well as catalogs containing short critical reviews of the content of the library books.

Thus even in this department, instruction and the new ways of promulgating it, gain ground. The great nations often look down upon the small ones with contempt, thinking that they have no possibilities of development at the side of the great ones, and believe that they oblige these latter if they give them the opportunity to unite with the great ones. The march of evolution in Finland, though, points at another direction. When a little people in such narrow conditions as those reigning in Finland, a people which has been almost without literature, has been able to raise itself, and which now, after a struggle of but half a century, can with so much success employ the means of cultivation offered by their libraries, we may believe that the following half century will give it more, if it but bravely and faithfully struggles forward on the basis of its own language and nationality instead of cowardly throwing itself in the arms of another, greater nation only in the intention to enjoy its fruits.

Forward, living soul! In the future the people of Finland has reposed its confidence, and in that confidence its forces are strengthened, and if it is true that the progress of the world depends more upon ideal than upon material force, disappointment will not be its reward.

In this manner the popular library institution has grown in our national soil, and very freely, not as the fruit of any tutelar intervention by government, not in any connection with an official instructional institution, and, even from the very first, not even by municipal enactment. Our libraries have grown up spontaneously just as the wild berries unasked by any cultivator; but as the berries, they are loved where they are at home.

The Progress of the Public Library Movement in London*

The beginning of the public library movement in London dates back to the year 1856, when the parish of St Margaret and St John, in what is now the borough of Westminster, adopted the Public Libraries Acts. It was the first of the London parishes to take this step. The

1857, and was based upon a previous institution dating back to 1840, and known as the Westminster literary, scientific, and mechanics' institution.

A long interval of inactivity followed broken after 26 years when Wandsworth, in 1883, adopted the acts and two years later opened its first library. The following year (1886) saw Lambeth adopt

LIBRARY	ACTS ADOP.	STOCK	ISSUE	BORROWERS	STAFF	POPULAT.	INCOME £	RATE
Battersea 3 libraries	1887	53,033	409,647	16,501	25	168,907	4,000	1d
Bermondsey 3 libraries	1887	31,000	160,000	5,000	8	130,486	3,542	1d
Camberwell 5 libraries	1889	70,000	600,000	18,000	24	259,339	4,600	1d
Chelsea	1887	40,293	216,590	5,706	16	173,842	3,560	1d
East Ham 2 libraries	1895	14,000	180,000	6,000	5	110,000	1,500	1d
Finsbury 2 libraries	1887	23,761	111,910	3,948	10	101,463	2,843	1d
Fulham 2 libraries	1887	20,683	193,895	7,500	11	137,289	2,100	1d
Hammersmith	1887	30,212	159,901	6,598	12	112,233	2,984	1d
Hampstead 5 libraries	1893	40,000	280,000	11,000	17	81,942	4,000	1d
Holborn	1891	20,000	113,000	3,000	6	58,542	2,500	1d
Hornsey 4 libraries	1896	31,139	350,000	10,027	15	80,000	2,400	1d
Kensington 3 libraries	1887	40,000	219,000	5,000	18	176,623	4,000	1d
Lambeth 7 libraries	1886	106,100	850,000	22,000	38	301,895	7,300	1d
Lewisham 3 libraries	1890	20,000(?)			12	136,405	3,700	1d
Penge	1891	8,401	76,239	3,323	4	22,465	817	1d
Poplar 4 libraries	1890	17,691	120,697	4,454	10	168,822	2,508	1d
Shoreditch 2 libraries	1891	34,534	159,910	4,585	13	118,705	2,935	1d
Southwark	1889-96	48,006	238,737	8,669	24	206,128	5,185	1d
Stepney 4 libraries	1889-96	47,725	336,446(?)	3,640	17	31,350	4,021	1d
Stoke Newington 2 libraries	1890	22,734	153,272	4,336	6	51,247	1,564	1d
Wandsworth 5 libraries	1883-1901	68,938	442,468	17,164	35	232,032	5,563	1d
Westminster 6 libraries	1856-1901	105,414	507,266	13,186	33	185,648	10,051	1d
Woolwich 3 libraries	1895-1901	18,000	145,000			122,505	2,600	1d

adoption was only secured after a severe struggle which aroused bitter and even violent opposition. The library resulting from the adoption was opened in

the acts at the third attempt, after a very hard struggle, and its library was opened in temporary premises in 1887.

This year, the year of the first jubilee, was marked by a great outburst of activity in the library movement. When many parishes were considering in what way they could most fittingly commem-

* Considerable data, chronological and descriptive, relative to the various libraries accompanied these pages, but owing to lateness of arrival, caused by the illness of the contributor, Hon. J. Y. W. MacAlister, must be deferred till another time.

orate the year, it was suggested to them that the adoption of the acts and the foundation of libraries would be an excellent solution of the problem. Accordingly, in 1887, the acts were adopted in Battersea, Bermondsey, Chelsea, Clerkenwell, Fulham, Hammersmith, Kensington, Clapham, Putney, and St Martin in the Fields; and libraries were opened in Battersea, Fulham, and Lambeth, while a temporary newsroom was opened in Chelsea.

This was but the beginning of a career of activity which up to the present has continued unchecked except for a period of three years (1893-1896) until today, almost the whole of London is dotted with libraries, branches, and newsrooms, which are being multiplied as the growth of their use demands.

Some general remarks on the conditions under which the various libraries perform their work may be of interest.

In almost all cases the library committees are composed of borough councillors only, but at Chelsea, Kensington, Lambeth, Penge, Stepney, and Stoke Newington there are certain non-councillors on the committees, selected for special qualifications for the work.

A considerable proportion of the staff of these libraries is composed of women assistants, and the hours of work average about 48 per week.

In nearly all cases books are loaned for a period of 14 days.

The majority of the libraries favor the dictionary form of catalog, but several have begun to adopt the classed catalog, and its use appears to be on the increase.

The great majority of the libraries issue their books from the lending department by means of the indicator system; but four libraries have the open access system in a more or less complete form. The pioneer of this system in Great Britain was the Clerkenwell library, where it was instituted by the librarian in 1894.

Most of the reference departments employ some form of open access to their shelves.

All the libraries receive the full prod-

uct of the 1d. rate with the exception of Shoreditch, which receives $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

Most of the libraries are exempted from the income tax and local rates, but there are three cases not exempted from rates and eight cases subject to the income tax.

Special collections in London public libraries

Battersea
Local. Music. Topographical photographs.

Bermondsey
Local. Books relating to leather manufacture.

Camberwell
Angling Shakespeariana. Local. Foreign literature. Books on Sir R. Burton.

Chelsea
Local. Carlyleana. Music. French. Books on Sir T. More.

Finsbury
Local. Art metal work. Watch and clock making. Jewelry and design. Music. Foreign.

Fulham
Local. Music.

Hammersmith
Local. Music. French.

Shoreditch
Furniture. Fine art. London topography. Local.

Hampstead
Early English literature. Art. Philology. Music. Local.

Holborn
Local. Music.

Hornsey
Local. Music.

Kensington
Art books. English topography. Local.

Lambeth
Bacon library. Music. Surrey and S. London.

Lewisham
Local. Music.

Penge
Local.

Poplar
Technical books relating to local trades. Local.

Shoreditch
Furniture. Fine arts. London topography. Local.

Southwark
Files of newspapers. Music. Local.

Stepney
Jews. Foreign. Books for the blind. Music. Local.

Stoke Newington
Foreign. Local.

Wandsworth

Local. Blackmore collection: W. Africa and Gibraltar.

Westminster

Fine arts. Foreign. Music. Local.

Woolwich

Local.

Library	Special features
Battersea	Juvenile rooms. Magazine.
Bermondsey	Juvenile room. Lectures. Ladies' room. Magazine.
Camberwell	Art gallery. Museum. Lectures.
Chelsea	Juvenile room. Art gallery.
East Ham	
Finsbury	Juvenile room. Magazine. Open access.
Fulham	Lectures. Open access.
Hammersmith	Ladies' room. Juvenile room.
Hampstead	Magazine.
Holborn	
Hornsey	Juvenile section. Open access.
Kensington	
Lambeth	Ladies' room. Juvenile rooms. Will have open access at new branch to be opened at Herne Hill.
Lewisham	
Penge	
Poplar	
Shoreditch	Ladies' room. Juvenile room.
Southwark	Lectures. Juvenile room. Magazine.
Stepney	Museum. Art gallery. Lectures. Juvenile room. Ladies' room.
Stoke Newington	Juvenile department.
Wandsworth	Ladies' room. Lectures.
Westminster	Ladies' room. Juvenile room.
Woolwich	

Bulletin no. 8 on Book buying, sent out by the A. L. A. committee on book prices, contained a list of good, desirable books, many of which were originally issued at prices beyond ordinary libraries, but which may now be had at less than one-third the original prices in many cases. Those who wish to know more of these books may address any member of the committee: A. E. Bostwick, New York public library; J. C. Dana, Newark (N. J.) public library; B. C. Steiner, Enoch Pratt library, Baltimore.

Libraries in France

The public library system of France has been developed largely through the inspiration received originally from an American and that our own Benjamin Franklin.

About the middle of the last century there came to the fore a remarkable Frenchman, M. Girard, who was what we would term in America a self made man.

After he had reached maturity and accumulated a fortune he made the unique discovery that there were certain riches which money could not buy, and that the fruits of intellect were not to be had in the market for sous.

Having earned his leisure, he presented himself at the Conservatory of arts and trades and for eight years assiduously devoted himself to the lectures and other opportunities of an educational nature presented by that institution. So great was his appreciation of what he himself had learned, and his gratitude for the opportunity presented by such an institution, that he set to work to see if in some way he could not evolve a plan by which the course offered by this institution might be extended throughout the rural districts of France.

He discovered that the nearest approach to it would be a placing of collections of good books at convenient places throughout the provinces, and with the energy that had brought him success in business life, he applied to various people of power and position and succeeded in interesting them in his project of the formation of an association called the Franklin society for the founding of public libraries, in recognition of the appreciation of the work done by Franklin along similar lines in America.

This society has been back of the popular library movement in France from that time until now. Still the libraries are not free libraries in the sense in which we understand the term in America. A certain amount of subscription is levied on the people using them. At the same time the society

has been the recipient of gifts from various sources, and in its early days did a remarkable work.

The lack of general education among the common people of France has been a great drawback to the progress of the work, but the society has done a great deal to improve this state of affairs and its work in interesting the people in books of a helpful nature has been quite as great as that of selection of books and their circulation.

The society has been the means, too, of interesting many municipalities in the support of libraries in their midst and in many ways has contributed to the general upbuild of library sentiment.

The schools of the country, particularly the secondary and higher schools are generally well supplied with libraries of various kinds, and editions of classics, the best manuals in science, and the most recent and authoritative critical works are supplied promptly and in good editions.

The late Charles A. Cutter was an enthusiastic admirer of the Franklin society of France and his strong influence in the early days of the A. L. A. did much to propagate the idea of supervision and cooperation as it was carried on in France under the Franklin society into the ideas and plans in the growth of American libraries.

These libraries have had a most remarkable growth, particularly in the last 25 years, their circulation in a recent year exceeding over two millions. These libraries are altogether practical and are built up with the idea of making them particularly useful to mechanics and laborers.

In acquiring new books, literary curiosity, edition de luxe and the like are excluded. Expensive works along scientific and literary lines are placed on the shelves, but they are used only in the library.

Strange as it may seem, while the majority of the users of the library do not belong to the educated class and are not fully appreciative of the value of books, the percentage of loss is ex-

tremely low and the small damage in handling is remarkable.

The figures of the library show that the poorest and most populous sections of the city furnish the larger portion of the readers. There is an unusually large demand for books relating to the arts and sciences. The circulation of music is confined to pieces and songs and not to the literature of the art.

Great pride is taken in the libraries as such by the people of means, and it is a common occurrence for the library to receive gifts of considerable value from people who have accumulated means without much position, probably following in the footsteps, as far as they are able, of M. Girard.

The great number of students from America who have studied and who have used the Bibliothèque Nationale, and the number of times it has been described in various periodicals, makes any extended notice of it here unnecessary. It holds its place supremely as the largest library in the world, in one instance being credited with having 40 miles of shelving. The value of its contents is unsurpassed by any other collection. Its rules and regulations are unique, and much of the admiration felt by visitors for the valuable collection it contains is lessened by the hardships and difficulties to be endured in coming in contact with its contents. J. H. P.

The Society for the promotion of engineering education has issued a reprint of the report of a committee of its members appointed to compile a list of technical and engineering books suitable for public library purposes. This list may be had on request and four cents for postage, by addressing C. A. Waldo, secretary, Lafayette, Ind.

Marie L. Shedlock, the London story teller, is to be in Chicago for the month of December, and is to give a course of five lectures on the Art of story telling at the Chicago kindergarten institute. It is the same course that she gave at the Carnegie library in Pittsburg.

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$1 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$4 a year
Single number	- - - - -	20 cents

PUBLIC LIBRARIES does not appear in August or September, and 10 numbers constitute a volume.

AFTER passing through a season of fire and water, PUBLIC LIBRARIES is ready again to meet the wants and wishes of its loyal constituency. We take this opportunity to express sincere appreciation of the kindness and sympathy shown by our friends in our misfortune, as it was impossible to respond to each one personally.

Much of the material sent to us for publication during the past summer became out of date before opportunity arrived to use it, and in each instance we wish to express our appreciation of this interest also, and to say again that we desire every library worker to contribute as far as he will to our effort to help forward the library cause.

Libraries here and elsewhere—The presentation in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for this month of a general view of the library progress of various countries seemed a fitting thing to do in view of the occasion of the national educational exhibits to be seen at the World's fair at St Louis. Surely, if slowly, the thought is taking shape and expression that the provision for education by the state is not sufficient nor complete when the highest institutions have been provided and equipped. Thought for the less favored and less self-reliant in the upward struggle toward higher development and greater intelligence in the immediate locality is actively at work. Popular forms of education are multiplying more rapidly now than ever before, and the idea is growing in the minds of state as well as of individuals that it is quite as necessary, if not more so, that provision be made for the advantage of the dull or disappointed, whose hope of higher opportunities at college or uni-

versity is slight or nil, as for the minority of the more fortunate for whom nature and the state have already made ample provision.

In the line of this thought has grown the library through its various stages and phases until the free circulating library with all its ramifications has come to be a center toward which the minds of all the world are slowly but surely turning. The farthestmost places of the earth and the islands of the sea report progress. The result will not be long in coming to be counted among the forces to be reckoned with in future years. Those who have watched and known the conditions as they have developed since the World's fair of 1893 realize what tremendous strides upward have been taken by the library in the mind and estimation of the whole world since then. And what wonderful growth in the institution and its relations since then.

The enthusiastic recruit to the ranks of intelligent librarianship sometimes becomes discouraged at the seemingly unjustifiable hindrances to be met in the path of his efforts, and it must be confessed that sometimes his impatience is justifiable. But at the same time, when one realizes the distance covered and difficulties surmounted in the past, there is large room for rejoicing over what has been accomplished. The future is full of promise if also crowded with thoughtful problems. Those who were indifferent, not to say opponent to library extension in many quarters 10 years ago, are today, in many cases, warm friends and supporters of the free library movement. Lack of knowledge, of appreciation, of personal fitness still abound, but these qualities sooner or later disappear where the relation to the library movement continues for any length of time and are to be found more largely in the new material. In due time the library spirit has its effect on this, too, and so the good work goes on.

We hope the account given in our pages will meet the approval of our readers and will furnish interest and material for future reference. A

prompt response to the request for material was given in almost every case, but subsequent results have shown that here also as in other things "the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak." However, there is so much that is interesting in what has been sent, and we feel sure that a careful perusal of these pages will be quite worth while.

It may not be out of place to urge favorable action by the A. L. A. on the invitation from Oregon for 1905. Though the west coast is far in miles from the east, the value of the trip for everyone concerned can not be measured by cost.

Librarians of all people need the broad view that is gained by travel and acquaintance. Doubtless satisfactory rates can be secured if properly managed, and most librarians can meet them if due notice is given. Miss Marvin of Wisconsin writes of the matter:

I most sincerely hope the A. L. A. will go to Portland for 1905. I have just been to Portland and found everything so attractive and full of interest that I am sure the librarians would gain greatly by having the meeting there. The exposition grounds are beautiful, the Portland hotel is one of the finest in the country, and there are so many interesting trips near there. Do stir up some of the other people. They will probably think it is a long way, but it is worth it.

CORNELIA MARVIN.

Books for Librarians—The discussion and earnest work of the committee of the Keystone state library association has borne fruit at the hands of O. H. Thomson, librarian of the branch library at Wagner institute, Philadelphia, in the splendid classified and annotated catalog of the prose fiction in the library of which he has charge. The catalog comprises about 4900 titles included under 26 classes logically arranged so that the least amount of difficulty arises in tracing material wanted. A very valuable feature is the index to nearly 1800 characters mentioned in the various novels, giving page in the catalog where the name may be found. In this, one wonders why an additional index figure would not have been warranted as aid in locating the name on the page given.

The notes are short but clear and

will be specially welcome to busy searchers for the elusive personages in fiction. This volume will prove a very helpful tool in every reference room, particularly in those which help newspaper people to "locate material."

The edition is limited to 500 copies, a seemingly inadequate number, and may be had from the Free library, Philadelphia, at \$1.25 a volume.

The long looked for Index to poetry and recitation promised some time ago by A. C. McClurg & Co. is now on the market. It is truly worth waiting for, and librarians will feel repaid in its possession. It includes over 30,000 titles from 369 books, arranged under titles, authors, and first lines, to which is appended a classified arrangement of titles of poems, etc., suitable for special days. The volume is attractive in paper, type, and binding, and is altogether a desirable volume for libraries, schools, and those interested in poetry and recitation.

Another valuable addition to library handbooks is the booklet entitled *Small school libraries*, issued by G. M. Walton, librarian of the Michigan State normal college, Ypsilanti. It is a compilation of the information given the students from the normal school who are in charge of school libraries, and who have asked for practical suggestions, from time to time, as to the best means of caring for their collections of books. It is plain, simple, and to the point, and will undoubtedly prove a helpful guide to its users.

A very helpful list of books for a children's library has been prepared by May H. Prentice and Effie L. Power, instructors in the Cleveland normal school. The selection of the books was made in behalf of the Cleveland normal school, and has been approved by the Cleveland public library. The books are arranged according to their suitability for the eight grades, and a good annotation is given each volume, specifying the character of the work, its chief points, or some particular object to be gained by its use.

Libraries in Japan*

According to the statistics of 1902, there are in this country 1 government library, 20 public libraries, and 46 private libraries. Among the books collected, those for public perusal are 820,670 in number, of which 751,278 are Japanese and Chinese and 70,392 are European and American works. The great majority of these books belong to the government library.

In our country, the practice of collecting books has not been confined to scholars only, but among those nobles and grandees who had a propensity for reading there were many who paid attention to amassing books; but only the favored few had access to these. There were scarcely any libraries opened to the public at large, and these were quite insignificant. In 1872, the Tokyo library was established by the Bureau of museums in the department of education. This is the origin of the present Imperial library. But the earliest library opened to the public was the Shusho-in established in Kyoto the following year. Regulations relating to the establishment of libraries were drawn up in 1881. Since that time it has been found necessary to encourage the foundation of libraries in order to facilitate the work of education. In 1899, was issued the law concerning libraries, which granted to any body public and private the right of establishing a library at any place throughout the country. The provisions of the law concerning the establishment and closing are the same as those for the establishment and closing of middle schools.

The chief and clerks of a public library are appointed by the governor of the district, and their treatment is similar to that of instructors and clerks of hannin rank. Public libraries are allowed not only to charge fees for reading, but also to establish endowment funds and collect contributions from the people of the district.

According to the statistics of 1902,

the number of libraries at that date was 1 government, 20 public, and 46 private libraries. The total number of the days on which they were opened to the public was 14,748, the average for one library being 210, which is equal to the number of working days of schools belonging to the intermediate education. Among these libraries only a few are well equipped, all the rest being on a small scale. The average number of readers in one library is 10 every day, most of them being students and teachers. As it has been stated above, libraries are as yet very few, and their influence upon general education is very limited. But the number rose from 30 in 1897 to 49 in 1901, and every year new ones are started by private people as well as school organizations, from the Ken* down to villages. Their importance is keenly felt and it will not be long before they become one of the most important factors in popular education.

The Osaka library, established by the Osaka-Fu, the Yamaguchi-Ken library, established by the prefecture of the same name, and the Ohashi library, a private library, were recently established, and are not included in the above statistics. The Osaka public library and Ohashi private library are among the best equipped. The former was founded by Sumitomo Kichizaemon, a millionaire living in Osaka, at the cost of 200,000 yen and was offered to Osaka-Fu, which has undertaken to provide for its maintenance. It was opened to the public at the beginning of this year and is working as an important aid to general education. The latter was started in July, 1902. The founder had attained rare success within the comparatively short period of a little over a dozen years as a publisher and bookseller. He spent a considerable sum in establishing this library for the benefit of the reading public of Tokyo. Unfortunately he died soon after its foundation. The average number of readers in this institution is over 240 a day. The number of books has reached

*Extract from the Report on Japanese education, prepared for Louisiana Purchase exposition. By request.

**"Fu" and "Ken" correspond to the French prefectures. They are subdivided into "Gun" or Cantons.

50,000 and is still increasing. It is pleasant to note that there is a tendency among our rich men to spend their money in founding public institutions of that kind.

The Imperial library, the only government library in Japan, is the most perfect in its plan and equipment. It contains 171,890 Japanese and Chinese and 45,304 European and American books, making a total of 219,194, of which the public has free access to 165,000 Japanese and Chinese and 45,000 western volumes. The number of the books of reference and of those that can be taken out is increasing year after year, and new and rare Chinese and Korean works have lately been added to the collections. The total number of days open to the public is about 332 annually. The number of readers has been constantly increasing since the China-Japan war. In 1903 it was nearly 144,000, the daily average being 432.

The number of persons allowed to take the books out of the library is not less than 3500. In this way, this library is unequaled, not only in giving benefit to the general public, but also in serving as a source of learning to scholars, students, officials, etc. Indeed, the majority of the reading public of Tokyo is directly or indirectly benefited by it.

This library was established by the department of education in April, 1872, under the name of Tokyo library. After having undergone many changes, it was enlarged after the China-Japan war to keep pace with the progress of education and the general expansion of the resources of the country. In April, 1901, its name was changed to the Imperial library, and it was reorganized, and thus the foundation of our national library was laid at last. After careful study of the plans of various library buildings in Europe and America, the construction of the new building was started. It is probably owing to the influence of this library that libraries are increasing by degrees to the great advantage of education; and when the new building is finished and the plan of the library is

extended, it is hoped that its influence will be even greater.

Schools, whether public or private, belonging to higher education, have libraries of their own for the use of professors and students. As these libraries have no relation to popular education or the education of the public in general, and have been organized with a view to the branches of study taught in those schools, books collected in them are principally such as bear directly on these branches of science. The largest and best regulated of these attached libraries is the one belonging to the Imperial university of Tokyo. At the end of the year 1901, the number of the Japanese and Chinese books was about 200,000 and that of European and American books was 130,300, total 330,000. The number of western books is nearly twice that of the books in the government library mentioned before. Those amassed by the College of agriculture are 16,000 Japanese and Chinese books and 12,000 European and American books, making the total of 28,000, which, added to the books in the university library, makes a total of over 350,000 books.

Next in importance to the Tokyo university library come those belonging to the Imperial university of Kyoto and the Tokyo higher normal school. Besides these there are large collections of books in the libraries belonging to the imperial household and the cabinet, some of which are very valuable. The nucleus of the library of the cabinet was the books constituting the Momiji-yama library established by Tokugawa Shogun, which, together with the books added afterwards, make 365,000 Japanese, 176,000 Chinese, and 83,000 western books, amounting to the magnificent total of 624,000 books in all, greatly surpassing those possessed by the libraries before mentioned. Some of the libraries belonging to other departments contain a great number of books, but as they can be read only by a few people and are not accessible to the public, such libraries are of very little value as public libraries. There are many private libraries owned by people of wealth.

Public Library Conditions in South Africa*

Bertram L. Dyer, librarian of Kimberley

So far back as 1818 Cape Colony had established a public library whose funds were derived from a tax upon wine, its then principal product. In the words of the proclamation, the design of the government of the Cape was "to lay the foundation of a system which shall place the means of knowledge within the reach of the youth of this remote corner of the globe, and bring within their reach what the most eloquent of ancient writers has considered to be one of the first blessings of life—home education."

The wine tax was diverted to the general funds of the colony in 1825, and a pittance of £300 per annum paid out of it for a couple of years, until in 1827 the tax was repealed, and the library handed over to a committee, thus ceasing in effect to be a public library under state control. Not till 1862 did the government of the Cape again contribute toward the up-keep of the library, but in that year the sum of £600 was granted toward its maintenance, and grants have been made ever since.

Early subscription libraries there were in Cape Colony beside that of Cape Town taken over from the state about 1830, for Swellendam established her library in 1838, George hers in 1840, and Graaff-Reinet hers in 1847. There is an amusing passage in a letter of Molteno's which he addressed to his mother in London in 1844, which forms a curious commentary on the library facilities enjoyed by the metropolis of England and that of Cape Colony. He writes: I much wish you could obtain a proper account of the Cape. perhaps you may be able to get the loan of a recent work; there are several. If you were so fortunate as we are at the Cape in having a public library of 30,000v. to resort to, you would experience no difficulty in this respect.

In 1862, Cape Colony, as we have seen, again provided public funds for her Cape

Town library, and in 1874 an ordinance was published giving the regulations under which public funds would be granted to libraries throughout the colony on the pound for pound principle.

Natal in 1851 founded her first library, and at the present time has a somewhat similar system of grants in aid—a system which has very recently been adopted by the governments of the Orange river and Transvaal colonies.

In South Africa the subscribers elect the committee, generally 12 in number, while there are usually trustees representing the municipality and the government, and there is a government inspection of accounts.

Cape Colony has nine large libraries in her principal towns receiving special grants and about 100 receiving pound for pound grants from the government to the extent of £9000 annually, having an annual income from 9438 subscribers, and 421,731 books in stock. Many libraries received small municipal grants in addition, but the main support of the libraries was from subscriptions. Natal, Durban, and Pietermaritzburg have large libraries of thirteen and fourteen thousand books each, and many smaller libraries supported mainly by subscriptions from the actual users of them, and from grants on the pound for pound system, but the most pleasing feature of which is the fact that almost every municipality, no matter how small, contributes out of municipal revenues to the library up-keep. In Rhodesia the library at Bulawayo is similarly helped, as is also the library of Bloemfontein, in the Orange river colony. The former library contains 5370 books, and with the Salisbury library constitutes the whole library provision of Rhodesia. In the Orange river colony there are libraries in process of formation at Ladybrand and Smithfield, but as yet little has been done to take advantage of the new library regulations. In the Transvaal the Government library of Pretoria has 24,000 books and 1040 subscribers, while Johannesburg has 15,130 books to its 1480 subscribers, and issues over 53,000 books annually—the largest turn-

*Taken by request of the author from his paper before the S. A. A. S., April 5, 1904, on Public library systems.

over in proportion to stock of any South African library. Libraries exist at nine other centers in the Transvaal, but all of these are practically only in the initial stages, and are practically still in process of formation. Of these the largest is Cape Town with 100,000 books. The total number of books in all the libraries in the colony is not half a million. Natal has 20 libraries—or rather she had, because some were unfortunately destroyed in the late war.

Gifts of libraries to South Africa are hard to find, though the noble bequests and gifts of the Savage family to Port Elizabeth deserve special mention. But apart from the Dessinian bequest to Cape Town, the gift of Sir George Grey also to Cape Town, the gift of £1000 by Mr Hiddingh, and certain legacies also to Cape Town, the Gibberd gift of £1000 to East London, and the MacFarlane gift of £500 to Kimberley, I am unable to trace any others, except "one considerable bequest" to Grahamstown, whose library also received the balance of a Kafir war fund that now produces some £140 annually. The Victoria memorial library at Salisbury, Rhodesia, and the Scott Turner library at Umtata, should perhaps be mentioned here also.

The Cape government has made special grants in aid of the building of libraries.

Recently I tried to test the work that we were doing in Kimberley by comparing it with that which was being done by equal-sized public libraries at home. Taking the average, I found in Great Britain that a population of 84,000 persons had a library income of £1812, a stock of 28,000 books, and issued 73 per cent of fiction out of a total annual issue of 136,000 books. Kimberley, with its population of 15,000 whites, spent last year upwards of £2000 on its library, possessed 26,000 books, and issued 75 per cent of fiction out of a total of 40,000. If you reduce these figures to the average per unit of the population you find that Kimberley spent 2s. 11d. per head on the library, while the average for the 20 home libraries was only 5d. per head. If we turn to America we

find Boston spending 3s. per head, and other towns considerably more.

But what Boston spends annually on her library per head of her population is found by the government, and we must compare her 3s. with only 7.2d. of our 2s. 11d. in Kimberley, for the Cape government only gives us 5.6d. and our municipality only 1.6d., our local subscribers paying in themselves for the privilege of using the library a sum equal to 12.7d. per head of the whole population of the town, while our donations from the De Beers Company have equaled 4d. per head of the population in every recent year.

Equally remarkable is the number of books read in Kimberley if you consider that we have no leisured community there, but that we are mostly people engaged in hard and laborious work all day, for last year we issued $2\frac{2}{3}$ books to each unit of our population as compared with only $1\frac{1}{2}$ books per head in the average of the 20 towns with libraries on the whole rather larger than ours.

Turning to the libraries themselves we find that in America the reference departments are small—the books are nearly all available for home reading. In England the reverse is the case, the reference being frequently larger than the lending department. In South Africa we frequently adopt the happy medium by putting our books in the reference section and permitting their issue on special signature form. The use made of the reference departments is difficult to show in comparison, because it is most unusual in South Africa to keep records of consultations in this department, but it is noteworthy that Manchester, which has only a third of the population of Chicago, has three times as many readers in its reference library.

Out here school libraries in connection with the larger public libraries are hardly known, but the magnificent provision which the Cape education department makes for the encouragement of libraries in its schools is such as to relieve the library board of much responsibility, though school libraries would be helped

and not hindered by closer relationship with the public libraries.

The use of the library rooms by the literary clubs and societies of the towns is practically unknown in South Africa, except at Cape Town, but a change seems imminent, and Johannesburg promises to lead the way in a welcome innovation which will make the library the home of all literary movements in its vicinity. Other towns are wondering if they also can not make the "dry bones of the valley" living forces to the young people of the town.

Out here branch libraries are practically unknown, each little village preferring independence to relationship with the one large library of a district, but I believe that the solution of the South African library problem will very largely be found in the linking up of the smaller libraries with the larger, and an efficient system of interchange. The only effective branch library that I know in South Africa is that of Kenilworth attached to Kimberley, and this is maintained by the liberality of the De Beers Company for its employees, and constitutes at this moment the only public library in South Africa which in all departments is free and open to all the residents of the place which contains it.

In our South African library system one of the best features is the way that the government grant aids to establish and fosters the growth of libraries in places that would be deemed too petty to have a library in Great Britain or America, unless in England they possessed a Verney as landowner, in Scotland were the birthplace of a celebrity, or in America were chosen as recipient of a millionaire's gift. These libraries, frequently poor, generally isolated, only need linking up with the larger libraries to produce a library system that is unequaled.

Age limits are practically unknown in South Africa.

Except at Cape Town, Bulawayo, and the reference department at Kimberley, I am unaware of any attempt at scientific classification in South Africa, yet it is little to be doubted that the Dewey

or Decimal system is making headway both in England and in America and will also be adopted in South Africa—thus enabling all libraries to adopt a uniform system.

In South Africa we fear to impose fines for fear that we shall lose subscriptions.

Reliable statistics as to hours in South African libraries are not available. Many libraries here are apparently open 11 hours a day for six days a week (and some hours on Sunday too) with only a staff of one, but so many of the South African libraries are open without any staff at all, except the kindly person who drops in once a week to set things straight, that without a personal acquaintance with each it were hard to draw any conclusion. The same remark would apply to the salaries paid in South Africa to librarians, for the average amount paid in salaries in the country is not £20 per annum. Outside Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Kimberley, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, and Johannesburg, the total salaries paid in any one library do not exceed £250 per annum.

More often than not the American library is a club for the reading of new books—frequently only of new novels. I fear that the same charge may with truth be leveled against many a South African library, and though Kimberley does its share in this respect, it is not quite so bad as Sir Frederick Young pictured it, for we certainly do not issue a greater percentage of fiction than any other library—indeed it would be hard for any library to beat Johnny Gilpin's Edmonton in this respect, which issues 98 per cent according to the last available figures. But though English libraries do circulate much fiction, there is yet set before the libraries of the old country a very lofty ideal, and they do attempt a great deal of educational work.

This is true of but few of the American libraries, for the majority of these are run on business lines and on these lines alone. There is less formality about the better libraries of the States—less red tape—and in all there is an attempt

on the part of the library to reach down to the special needs of the people. The library seeks to be the center of literary feeling in the town; it seeks to attract the children and to lead them into the use of better books.

The South African libraries can with advantage adopt the best points of both systems. We should attract the public and not attempt to discipline it; but yet we should endeavor to lead the younger generation toward the right use of the best books.

The American and British peoples are not exactly alike, and our South African public probably differs from both; for example, American productive scholarship is far less than British, while South African can hardly be said to have come into existence. The sale of popular books is tremendous in America, less in Great Britain, and small indeed in South Africa. American libraries seek the rather to be recreative than educational, British libraries to be educational rather than recreative; South African are at present more recreative than educational, yet the enormous impulse that was given and is given to American progress by her school system has been largely helped by her library system.

The South African uses the library as a sort of occasional club; he takes his recreative reading from it, and some other more solid mental pabulum, but he is usually a very busy man whose ideas are focussed rather round his bank-book than his library books, and he more often than not is quite content to leave all serious reading and recreative study to that middle or old age which he devoutly hopes shall find him dwelling out of Africa. Yet his women-folk use the library a great deal, and his boys and girls are accustomed in the schools to a right appreciation of books, and as they grow up they ought not to be permitted to grow out of the custom and the use of them. Home education is the watchword of the public library in South Africa, in the hope that not one child who has passed through its schools may remain out of touch with a literary storehouse.

Libraries in New South Wales

Margaret Windeyer, Public library of New South Wales, Australia

In regard to library conditions in the state of New South Wales, with its population of nearly a million and a half, it can be briefly stated that the free public library has not been recognized as one of the necessary institutions of municipal life. Among the municipalities near Sydney, libraries have been formed in 15. These are authorized by the Municipalities act, which confers the power to levy a special rate for a library, and authorizes councils to establish free libraries. Clause 142 provides that a grant of £100 from the consolidated revenue may be made for the purchase of books if 300 persons can avail themselves of the books, and £200 if 1000 persons can; but it is obligatory that the books remain in the library, so they are only available for reference use.

There are 375 libraries throughout the state which are subsidized by the government at the rate of 10 shillings in the pound, that is to say the government gives to the library one-half the sum raised by subscriptions and other means. As many of these libraries are in lonely bush townships, and the Mechanics' institutes, of which they in many cases form a part, are centers of social intercourse, it happens in some instances that all the subsidy is not expended in the purchase of books.

The center of library activity in the state is the Public library of New South Wales. This library had its origin in the Free public library; was established Oct. 1, 1869, when the buildings and books of the Australian subscription library, which was founded in 1856, were purchased by the government. During 1886-1887, considerable additions were made to the library building, and it was to a large extent rebuilt; the new wing was opened in April, 1890. During 1895 the name Free library was changed to Public library of New South Wales. In December, 1899, the library was incorporated, and a statutory endowment of £2000 per annum for the purchase of books was granted.

The library is controlled by a board of trustees appointed by the government. In 1877 the lending branch was established; in June, 1899, on account of cramped conditions, this department, with the newspaper room, was moved to the Queen Victoria market building.

During 1899 David Scott Mitchell made his first donation of 10,024v. and 50 pictures, and intimated his intention to bequeath to the Public library his unrivaled Australian collection with adequate endowment, to be kept separately and known as the Mitchell library.

There are 162,560v. in the Public library, grouped as follows: Reference library, 127,707v.; lending branch, 28,959v., of which 5548 are fiction; country boxes, 5900v. In 1903, 6514v. were added, of these 1899 were gifts and 294 were acquired through the Copyright act.

Books may be borrowed by individuals, country libraries, Mechanics' institutes, and groups of students in the country districts, free of charge. In 1903, 116,668v. were issued to libraries in 138 country towns; 547v. were sent to nine different light-houses, and 596v. were lent to 60 individual students.

The reading-room is open on week days from 10 till 10 o'clock, and on Sundays from 2 till 6 o'clock. The attendance on week days in 1903 numbered 674,183, and on Sundays 8106.

Departmental and official libraries in Sydney are as follows:

	Volumes
National art gallery	347
Attorney-general and justice department	7,500
Botanic gardens	3,535
Public instruction	301
Mines department	7,982
Navigation department	200
Sydney observatory	8,500
Parliamentary library	40,756
Comptroller general of prisons	26,063
Statistician's office	1,260
Technical college	4,706
Public works department	3,727

Other libraries of value and usefulness are as follows:

	Volumes
Engineering association of New South Wales	600
Royal Geographical Society of Australia	1,000

Law institute of New South Wales	5,522
United grand lodge of masons	1,000
Australian museum	11,431
Pharmaceutical society of New South Wales	600
St Paul's college	3,824
United service institute of New South Wales	1,286
University of Sydney	59,000
Women's college	878
Royal society of New South Wales	

Libraries have been established in many of the state schools.

The Imperial Library at Calcutta, India

The library was opened by Lord Curzon, on Jan. 30, 1903, between which date and the end of the year, 2121 permanent readers' tickets were issued to the public, in addition to 166 tickets for one day, and 109 for periods ranging between two days and one year. A total of 15,093 readers made use of the reading-room during the first 11 months. It may be inferred from the low average number of requisitions for books not on the open shelves that the majority of visitors are either students reading for examinations or persons looking up casual references. There are, however, among the readers a small band of earnest and capable students, and several books, besides articles in the more serious reviews, have been the fruit of their labors in the library. The number of tickets issued is very encouraging, though the number of actual readers is not quite satisfactory. But the taste for reading and the habit of attending a public library have to be created. The low average number of requisitions for books not on the open shelves is partly due to the scarcity of books. Those who resort to the Calcutta Imperial library for the study of any special subject or topic must be disappointed in not finding many of the books which are essential for their purposes. The fact is that the library has not yet become even a moderately adequate one for thorough and systematic study, and can not be said to be fully stocked in any branch of study. These defects will be remedied in the course of a few years.

Several persons have made gifts of a considerable number of books to the library.

The librarian gives instructions in German and French to a select few consisting mostly of pundits and holders of government scholarships. It is evident that the Imperial library has been very fortunate in its first librarian.

Under the able and intelligent direction of its present librarian, the newly established library is making good progress. The librarian is at present engaged in selecting books and pamphlets from the collection of the Bengal secretariat which has been growing since 1867, and contains a valuable collection of early Indian printed books and those published during the period of the last generation. It is absolutely necessary that the public library of the metropolis of India should contain a complete literature about the country.

At present the library hardly deserves the high-sounding name with which Lord Curzon has christened it; but in the course of time, under the fostering care of the government of India, it will grow into an institution worthy of its name and worthy of its position. It is not presumptuous to hope that in the course of a hundred years the Calcutta Imperial library may be known as one of the richest collections of books in the world.—*The Indian messenger*.

Honolulu Library and Reading Room Association

Helen Louise Hillebrand, librarian Honolulu library

It is with pleasure that I comply with the request of the editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES to give to the library world in the United States some idea of what the Honolulu library is trying to do for the cause at "the cross roads of the Pacific" in one of "our new possessions."

I have been in charge of the library here a little over a year, consequently I may not be as well prepared to tell you all that has been accomplished during the 25 years of its existence as the one who has served it faithfully for a long

period, and lately resigned for a well-earned rest.

It made a humble beginning in 1879, occupying the second floor of a business block in the city of Honolulu. Most of the books were donated by friends of the organization. Today its home is a modest one-story brick structure, centrally located in the heart of town, where the electric cars pass the door. There is a well-selected stock of over 17,000v.

A large, light, airy reading-room is an attractive feature, with many of the current magazines and newspapers to be found upon the tables. Among them are daily or weekly newspapers from the principal cities of the mainland, viz.: New York, Chicago, Washington, New Orleans, Louisville, Boston, Springfield, and San Francisco. Our foreign neighbors are also well represented, with weekly publications from Auckland, Sydney, Queensland, Shanghai, and Yokohama. Our foreign readers are provided with papers in the French and German languages. For all of these we subscribe over \$300 per annum; so that we aim to reach the different nationalities within our borders. This department of the library is open every day in the year from 9 a. m. to 9.30 p. m., and is free to everyone. It is well patronized, and welcomes all visitors who come to this cosmopolitan city for a season, as well as permanent residents.

Books may be drawn from the library, which is open at the same time as the reading-room, with the exception of Sundays and legal holidays, upon payment of the subscription fee of 50 cents a month, which entitles a member to the use of two books at a time.

It is only by means of the members' dues and an endowment fund that the existence of the library is made possible. With the exception of electric lights, water rates, and exemption from taxes, it receives no aid from the city.

To the efforts and continued interest of a few public-spirited citizens is this organization due, and it deserves a better support than it has from the general public. Its scope is necessarily restricted by lack of means. While Honolulu is

a city of 40,000 inhabitants, less than 8000 of these are English-speaking people. The remainder, mostly Asiatics and fewer natives, can not be regarded in this connection.

Those of the community who should contribute to its support, but do not, perhaps have libraries of their own or read chiefly periodical literature. The inducements offered by the public library do not seem sufficient to be worth to them the small sum of \$6 a year. Possibly they do not feel interested unless they are able to find the latest novels at their disposal, as they can in the Booklover's library.

In such a library as this conditions are quite different from those in a free lending library of any large city, and they must be met accordingly. To give one an idea of what is read here, books on philosophy, literature, science, and travel are greater favorites than history and biography. Of course the new, popular fiction is always in demand, as it is in any other lending library.

Books are recommended for purchase by the auxiliary literary committee of the library, subject to the approval of a literary committee of three from the board of trustees, who are among the ablest men of the community, and who have long been connected with the institution.

The library has been at great disadvantage in being so isolated, and consequently deprived of the valuable assistance obtained by intercourse with other libraries, as to modern methods, etc. Until three years ago none of the books had been shelf-listed, and the catalog is not made according to rule. Even now the work is incomplete. I am endeavoring, with the help of an assistant, to finish what remains to be done, and it is not so small a task as to afford us any extra time for months to come.

The cost of binding books here is considerable. The postage or freight on new books ordered from the mainland is quite an item with us, so that the discount allowed the library by publishers scarcely more than covers the

charges of transportation. Since annexation we are required to pay 25 per cent duty on all imported books, as this is not a free library. It hardly seems just, when there would be no such organization were it not supported by subscriptions.

A most important part of library work—that with the children—is barely attempted here yet, as there is neither the means nor the room to accommodate them, with the exception of the high school pupils. They are allowed to draw books twice a week without payment of dues. Many more school children are anxious to enjoy this privilege. If we ever occupy a new and more commodious building, I hope to have all who wish to come.

Though there are discouragements, and much to be done that we are unable to accomplish, there are compensations. We are not overworked, and consequently unfitted for what must be done every day. Our efforts are appreciated by most of our members. As for our board of trustees, I can not say enough of their kindly coöperation and interest in the institution, and what that means to the librarian.

I should like to say something of the Hawaiian Historical society. I though not immediately connected with the library, it will some time be a valuable addition. This society was organized to preserve all literature relating to Hawaii and Polynesia, and to arouse and perpetuate interest in Hawaiian history, customs, and folk-lore. It publishes papers written by members of the society relating to these subjects.

It owns a fine library of over 800v, which occupies a room in the library building, and which is accessible only to its members. On its board of trustees are men long identified with the interests of the Hawaiian race, many of them 'sons of the soil,' who have helped to make history. The dues are \$1 a year.

The Honolulu library sends a warm "aloha" to all members of the A. L. A., and extends to them a cordial invitation to visit, some day, the "sunny shores" of Hawaii Nei.

National Educational Association

Library department

Notwithstanding the many outside attractions and the rather out of the way quarters provided for the meetings, the sessions of the Library department of the N. E. A. at St Louis, June 28 and 30, 1904, were among the most successful and interesting meetings that have yet been held.

The attendance was greater than could be expected and in proportion shows a creditable attendance compared with the other departments.

The meetings were held in the Model library hall in the Missouri state building. Dr N. C. Schaeffer presided. The general theme for the meeting was the Relation of the normal school in the matter of library training. The papers presented were along this line and the discussions followed.

The first paper was presented by Theodore B. Noss, president of the State normal school, California, Pa. The keynote to his address was sounded when he said: The present tendency is to teach, not what the old century made customary, but what the new century finds necessary. For this reason the library at the present time assumes an importance as an educational force, never felt before. This is the result of various causes, such as the immense increase in the supply of good books in cheap form, the rapid increase of urban population, the disposition of men and municipalities to found libraries for public use, and especially the recognition of the fact that education should deal more with things of intrinsic interest and of larger meanings (such as may be found in literature, nature study, and art), and less with mere formal studies that have a more or less conventional value. Much of the pupil's time has been used in teaching him things which he will never need in geography, arithmetic, grammar, etc., and things which the teacher has never needed except for examination. The hungry child has asked for bread, and we have given him a stone. He has said to the teacher,

What shall I do to be saved from failure and poverty and ignorance? The teacher's reply has been, Make the verb agree with the subject in number and person; or, Multiply the numerators together for a new numerator and the denominators for a new denominator.

The pupil finds when he gets into real life that nobody cares for these pedantic niceties of the school, while everybody prizes and praises the very things the school neglected, such as strong interest in literature, music, art, physical health, and grace, speed, and skill in doing things worth doing, social accomplishments, and moral excellence.

The discussion of Grace Salisbury, librarian of the State normal school, Whitewater, Wis., gave an account of the course of instruction in library methods offered by the State normal school at Whitewater, Wis. She gives the work to all entering pupils both in the normal department and the upper grades of the model school.

The course is opened by an introduction to the library as a whole with an explanation of classification with actual practice of finding and returning books. Lessons are given on various classes of reference books, the use of the indexes and various bibliographies. Students are also made familiar with the card catalog.

Special attention is given to library organization to those familiar with the use of the library in order to acquaint them with the work of the librarian so that when they go into school as teachers they may know how to organize a library if necessary, or at least understand its administration. The classes meet once a week for 10 weeks, doing their practical work on the intervening days. The work is very simple and every paper and card is carefully corrected and returned.

J. N. Wilkinson, president of the State normal school, Emporia, Kans., pointed out the duty of the normal school in relation to district libraries. In the course of his paper Mr Wilkinson pointed out that the training of librarians in normal schools is necessary to make

school district libraries effective. Many of the district school libraries are not now effective. A library may give poison instead of food. It may lead to habits of mental dissipation, and it may be so managed that the money it costs is worse than wasted.

The district school library cannot be effective unless the teacher is able to take charge of it and attend to the distribution and collection of the books.

A certain amount of formality is necessary to secure appreciation for the library. The school must be trained into orderly habit in the use of books. If this is not done the library goes to destruction. A teacher cannot do this work without special training. The making of library knowledge and enthusiasm general among normal school students is a most effective means of making district school libraries successful. Only when the library training given by normal schools has reached down to the district school will the duty of the normal schools to the district school have been fully discharged.

Mabel Reynolds, librarian of the State normal school, Cheney, Wash., in discussing Mr Wilkinson's paper said: The people who teach and who do not come to the normal at all, may be reached through the county superintendents, the teachers' institutes, and through articles in the state teachers' journals, and reprints of these articles, or other circulars, sent to the teachers and county superintendents.

The district school teachers should learn of the library movement in their own state, of the library legislation, the lists compiled by the state superintendents, if there are such, and of the way local conditions are being met by the most progressive district school leaders. This means that the normal school librarian must put herself in touch with the district schools of the state. She must see that all students who have the opportunity to use the normal library, and for many of them it is the first good collection of books they have ever used, get some definite book knowledge to use in their schools;

get some library enthusiasm to make them eager to obtain books for their pupils, when they go out to teach.

Normal students need to be provided with an opportunity to catch the library spirit. Visits to children's rooms in the public libraries, hearing talks given by the library assistants who work with the public schools, assisting at the loan desk when the children of the training school draw books, reading of the accomplished good in the library world as given in the articles in the general magazines; all these things may open a new world of possibilities to young people who are to teach the country schools.

In the second day's session Clarence E. Meleney, associate superintendent of the city schools, New York, read a paper on the Place of the library in class instruction. He said the success of a library or of any school apparatus depends upon the method of its use, and the method depends upon the person in charge, whether librarian or teacher. A suitable class library is just as important as proper illustrative apparatus.

A library that can be made useful and profitable, that can be readily managed by a successful teacher, and that will prove a delight to a class, should be selected upon a few fundamental principles; it must be limited in the number of volumes; it must contain only books that the pupils can easily read. Each library should be distinctly a class library of the appropriate grade, and should not be duplicated in a higher grade. The pupils should understand that it belongs to their class alone, and they should know that an entirely new library—new to them—is awaiting them in the next higher class. There should be volumes enough in each library to satisfy the reasonable demands of all, beyond which the public library should be available for the use of the most ambitious or most studious readers. The books of the class library should be thoroughly and repeatedly read. The value of a book to a student is in its mastery. The

teacher should train his pupils to read a few books thoroughly rather than to read many books carelessly and superficially. I asked a young girl why she was reading *Little women*, and if she had read it before, to which she replied: Because I love it. I have read it twenty times, which I took to mean that she has read it many times. Good books should be read "twenty times" and a book that is not worth reading over and over is not worth reading at all.

A general discussion of the Value of the library in education was presented by Dr Schaeffer of Pennsylvania, Dr Canfield of New York, Mr Crunden of St Louis, and M. E. Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The following resolutions were passed by the department:

The Library department of the National educational association urges teachers to study the best methods of using libraries in the subjects that are taught in the schools, and especially, to train pupils to choose widely and to read effectively the books that are to occupy their time.

This section, believing that teachers will appreciate the need of trained librarians, addresses to the teachers, of whose great national convention this section is a constituent part, an earnest appeal that they stand for the special training of librarians for all classes of library work.

We believe that the efficiency of library work is unnecessarily hindered by the present postal rate on books, and we therefore urge upon congress the passage of the bill No. 4870, which provides for a pound rate on all books sent from a public library for library use.

It is the sense of this department that greater uniformity in library methods would be effective in bringing the benefit of library work to all classes of schools, and it is therefore recommended that the library department be authorized to prepare a manual of library methods to be printed and distributed in the same manner as was in 1897, the report on the Relations of the public libraries to public schools.

The following officers were elected for 1905: President, C. P. Carey, state superintendent of Wisconsin; vice president, J. N. Wilkinson, president state normal school, Emporia, Kans.; secretary, M. E. Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Bibliography of child study for 1903, by Louis N. Wilson, librarian, forms No. 4 of Vol. 1 of the publications of Clark university library, Worcester, Mass.

An Invitation to the A. L. A. for 1905

The Library association of Portland, Ore., invites most earnestly the members of the A. L. A. to hold their twenty-seventh annual meeting in its city. In 1895 the A. L. A. stood upon the threshold of the great west at its meeting in Denver, and four years before that time the rocky barrier was crossed and California visited. The northwest, untrodden territory to the A. L. A. member, has a beauty and grandeur of its own as distinct from California as from the garden centers of the east. A week can be passed with great pleasure in the city of Portland. Excellent accommodations and comfortable weather can be assured. From her streets can be seen the snow-white mountains, Hood, St. Helena, and Adams crowning the long blue range of the Cascades, and in every direction one of the most beautiful countries in the world beckons the traveler to explore its glories. Those who care for mountain climbing will find Mt Hood just 60 miles away. The historic Astoria is a few hours' ride toward the Pacific, and a day spent upon the broad Columbia is one never to be forgotten.

Every route across the country has its special attraction and is full of interest, and the Lewis and Clark fair to be opened in Portland in May in honor of those famous old explorers will bring about a particularly low schedule of railroad rates. The A. L. A. is cordially invited to meet among us next year.

PORTLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A. L. A. Notes

Advance registration

The secretary wishes to emphasize again the importance of a full advance registration, and hopes to hear from every one who expects to attend the conference. Numbered identification buttons can not be provided, nor can printed record be made of those who neglect this matter.

Old A. L. A. handbooks

Libraries or individuals wishing to complete files of the official handbook

can obtain copies of the issues from 1900 to date, and of a few earlier years, from the secretary.

Rooms at the Inside inn

The secretary has an option on a few rooms at different prices which are at the disposal of members who have been unable to make satisfactory arrangements. For particulars address,

J. I. WYER, JR., Sec.

New York State library school association: President, P. L. Windsor, University of Texas library, Austin; secretary-treasurer pro tem, Wm. F. Yust, State library, Albany. The next meeting will be held at the Inside inn, St. Louis, Mo., October 20, at 3.30 p. m. The election of officers will include a secretary-treasurer in the place of Isabel E. Lord, resigned.

Plan Library on Wheels

A book wagon, the first public library on wheels to be sent out in the United States, is contemplated by the Wisconsin free library commission.

As the wagon passes through the counties the farmers will be invited to select their winter's reading. There will be books for the old and young, and each family will be allowed to make as large a selection as is desired. The following spring the wagon will make another trip through the same territory to gather up the books and return them to the central library.

One part of the scheme is that neighbors residing near enough to make it possible shall share their books with each other.—*Milwaukee news*.

The Sarnia Library board have issued in pamphlet form the paper read by Norman Gurd at the meeting of the Ontario Library association, on How to deepen public interest in the library. Any library which has not received a copy may obtain same on application to James Spereman, secretary Sarnia Library board, Sarnia, Ontario.

A. L. A. Exhibit at the World's Fair

Upon the approach of the Louisiana Purchase exposition more ambitious plans than those of the Columbian exposition and those of the Paris exposition were formed. It was resolved: 1) to revise the A. L. A. catalog, to bring it up to Jan. 1, 1904, and enlarge it to include about 8000v.; 2) to utilize again the comparative exhibit which had done service at the previous expositions; and, 3) to display both in a building that should be a model of architecture, arrangement, furniture, and equipment, provided such building could be secured. Efforts were made by the board of directors of the St. Louis public library to obtain the necessary funds from the exposition company; Mr Dewey applied to Mr Carnegie; chief Rogers of the education department of the exposition tried in various quarters to secure a library building on the "model street," all the while reserving a space in the education building, the fitting of which, however, would have cost eight to ten thousand dollars. Meantime the St. Louis library authorities had sought an appropriation from the Missouri State commission. Finally, there remained the choice of a space 60x30 feet in the education building with no money for its enclosure, or a room in the Missouri building with an appropriation of \$3500 for furnishing and fitting. There was, of course, no hesitancy in accepting the latter. In the very outset, Mr Davidson, president of the Library Bureau of Boston, offered to equip the "model library," whether one room or a whole building, with book stacks and cases, desks, tables, chairs, etc., of the latest and best designs made by the Bureau.

Accordingly, the supports of "library hall" were strengthened, the floor covered with corticene and the "model library" installed as soon as the furniture and books could be obtained. The exhibit, though incomplete, was ready for inspection in June; and the formal opening on August 1, found some 5000v. of the A. L. A. collection in classified order, and 2600v. of popular books drawn

from the St Louis public library to supplement the circulating volumes of the A. L. A. collection, together with some 1500v. by Missouri authors, the joint exhibit of the St Louis public library and the Missouri historical society. The latter society has further an exhibit of Missouri newspapers consisting of a bound volume of every paper published in the state during the year 1903. The Missouri Federation of women's clubs also has on exhibition a sample of its traveling libraries.

The A. L. A. collection has been cataloged by the Library of congress; and through the courtesy of Dr Putnam, the librarian, cards have been supplied for both a classed and a dictionary catalog. Dr Putnam has not only lent to the creation of this model library the great resources of the Library of congress, but he has incorporated with the exhibit of the "national library" (as it should be called) the comparative exhibit previously referred to and provided adequate quarters and a handsome setting for the whole in the government building. Here those interested can find the best opportunity ever afforded for the study of comparative methods of library administration.

The model library is conducted in every particular as a branch of the St Louis public library. Though not advertised till recently, already over a hundred persons residing on the fairgrounds have registered and are drawing books. The essential advance in this over previous library exhibits lies in the fact that this is a public library in actual operation and has a reading-room containing current magazines and newspapers from all over the world.

The exhibit, as explained, is a coöperative enterprise. The Missouri State commission provides the room and general furniture and incidentals, and pays all bills for transportation. The publishers furnish the books; the Library Bureau supplies the technical equipment; the selection of book was made by a committee of the A. L. A. with the coöperation of some 200 libraries and university specialists, the collating

done by the New York state library, and the final revision by Mrs H. L. Elmendorf, special bibliographer of the Buffalo library; the books were cataloged by the Library of congress under the direction of Librarian Putnam, and the card catalog and the printed catalog (not yet issued) came from the same source; while the St Louis public library has installed the exhibit and bears the expense of its conduct.

This gives in brief, the antecedents, the genesis and the present status of what is labeled in its home "the Missouri library exhibit," and what may be called, with certain unavoidable limitations, a "model library," representing the aims and efforts of the A. L. A.—*St Louis public library monthly bulletin*.

Consistency vs Inconsistency

Philadelphia, Sept. 8, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

In Warren's Ten thousand a year, nearly at the end of chapter 10, Snap recovers for Titmouse an I. O. U. given to Huckaback. The author writes: This was done and so ended all intercourse—at least on this side of the grave—between Titmouse and Huckaback. Towards the beginning of chapter 17, as Titmouse and Gammon are walking arm in arm down Oxford street they meet Huckaback, and an interview of a stormy and mean character between "Titty" and Huckaback is described.

Cyrus Townsend Brady in his abridgment of the famous novel under the title of 'Tittlebat Titmouse' says in the introduction that he went over the story no less than six times, and yet reproduces the above author's slip leaving it uncorrected. See end of chapter 11 and nearly at the end of chapter 15.

Brady also says he has reproduced "nearly" all the Titmouse story. He has omitted the entire account of the attempted hair dye remedy, missing the commiseration of Mrs Squallop that if Titmouse's red hair had become green it was only a difference between carrot tops and carrot roots.

JOHN THOMSON.

News from the Field

East

The usual growth of the library at Springfield, Mass., is reported, and an increasing and pressing demand for more room. This library issued unusually valuable special printed lists. In the delivery and the reference rooms are kept blanks, in plain sight, on which the borrowers are invited to report "books never in."

The six bronze doors for the front of the Boston public library, upon which Daniel C. French has been at work for several years, have been successfully completed to the entire satisfaction of the architects.

Mr French's scheme consists of six life-size floating allegorical figures—Music and Poetry, Knowledge and Wisdom, Truth and Romance.

With the exception of Knowledge all are female figures wholly or half draped and bearing emblems of their character—Music with her lyre, Poetry with her antique Roman lamp, Knowledge with his tome, Wisdom with her divining rod, Truth with a handglass reflecting a globe, and Romance with the player's mask. All the figures are graceful, refined, fanciful creations.

Each door is made of solid bell bronze, is 6x11 feet, and weighs 2600 pounds.

According to the recent annual report (52) of the Boston public library, the library system includes the Central library, 10 branch libraries with permanent collections of books, 13 reading-rooms, 22 delivery stations, and also, as places of deposits or delivery, 38 engine houses, 20 city institutions, 85 public and 10 parochial schools, making 185 agencies. The accessions last year reached 39,280v.; 680v. of fiction were passed upon, out of which 135 titles were chosen. The circulation of adult English fiction declined 11½ per cent, and the circulation of adult class books increased 2.42 per cent at the Central library. The sum spent for books, periodicals, and newspapers was \$48,835.

Instruction in library use and arrangement was given in the children's room to

various times to 1250 pupils. The public lectures in Library hall have been unusually successful. The total circulation for home use reached 1,464,037v.

Central Atlantic

C. E. Wright, for three years assistant in charge of the useful arts room of the Cincinnati public library, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Carnegie library, Duquesne, Pa.

Annette L. Smiley, who was formerly in charge of the reference department of the Omaha public library, and later of the Y. M. C. A. library of New York, has entered upon her new duties as index clerk in the counsel's department of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, 15 Dey st., New York city.

More than 100v. of private and public documents, gathered by Elihu Washburne while minister to France, have been given to the Congressional library at Washington. The collection was arranged by Mr Washburne and presented to his son, Hempstead Washburne, who in turn presents the documents to the Congressional library. The letters are from American and European army officers, consuls, ministers, senators, and monarchs. Many were written during the Commune in Paris, and contain much unpublished history.

Central

Mrs Nellie G. Beatty has been elected librarian of the Public library at Lawrence, Kan.

Detroit will open a new fully equipped branch library, in the north part of the city, about the first of the year.

The report of the St Louis public library shows a circulation of 1,237,631v.; 569v. of the circulation at the main library were taken from the open shelves. The total expense for maintenance and growth was \$69,261.

Samuel H. Ranck of Baltimore has been elected librarian of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) public library, at a salary of \$2500. Mr Ranck has been con-

nected with the Enoch Pratt free library of Baltimore for several years.

Caroline Burnite has resigned her position as first assistant in the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburg to become supervisor of children's work in the Cleveland public library. Miss Burnite began her new duties on September 14.

Kansas City (Mo.) public library has inaugurated a system of sub-stations in connection with the public schools by which more intelligent service may be rendered the children. A superintendent will give full time to this work, and large results are expected from the plan.

The Adams memorial library at Wheaton, Ill., which has been opened only two days for the last dozen years, has decided to open every day and evening beginning with Sept. 1, 1904. Maud Mary Pugsley has been librarian for the past two years to an eminently satisfactory degree.

Effie L. Power, supervisor of children's work in the Cleveland public library, who was given leave of absence from the library last year to take up the work of special instructor in library use and juvenile literature in the Cleveland normal school, is to retain her position in the normal school, and has been succeeded in the library by Caroline Burnite. The course of instruction as it is being worked out in the normal school aims to make known the resources of the library to the students, to train them in the use of books as tools, and to develop some critical judgment of children's books.

South

Duncan Burnet of the University of Missouri library has been elected librarian of the University of Georgia.

The contract providing for merging the Louisville public library and the Louisville free public library has finally been ratified by both sides. Several new branch libraries will be opened January 1.

Canada

A correspondent writes: The new Brantford library is a beautiful building and is very well laid out. The cost was \$35,000. They have about 22,000v. on the shelves. Their books have been chosen with care and their collection is a fine one. The librarian has a bindery in the basement, and does all the necessary repairing and rebinding. He turns out excellent work. They are beginning free access, but in fear and trembling. I did what I could to strengthen them. It appears they have been losing books under the old system and are afraid of the new.

The legislative library of Prince Edward Island the smallest province of the dominion, is one of the most up-to-date government libraries in Canada. Although it has on its shelves less than 6000 books, it is in other respects, according to visitors, superior to the government libraries at Halifax and St John. Among its modern features are an up-to-date card catalog on the dictionary plan, classification of books by the Dewey decimal system, the latest approved style of shelf list, and the Browne system of charging. A very valuable decimal classification scrap book paying special attention to local matters, is in course of growth; and as time permits old newspapers and other works are being topically indexed.

Foreign

The Public library building in Wellington, N. Z., was so badly damaged by earthquake on August 9 that it was declared unsafe and closed for repairs by the city authorities. This is the third time that such damage has occurred. The second time the damage was so severe the tower had to be removed and other alterations made.

Position wanted—Young lady desires position as assistant or secretary; over four years' experience in large library; has had library school training and is first-class stenographer and typewriter. Address Secretary, care PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

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Edited by EDITH GRANGER, A. B.

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The work indexes very nearly four hundred standard and popular collections of poetry and recitation books, including dialogues, orations, drills, etc., comprising about thirty thousand titles, arranged alphabetically under three heads—titles, authors, and first lines. An appendix contains lists of titles suitable for special occasions, such as Arbor Day, Washington's Birthday, etc., also lists of drills, tableaux, pantomimes, etc.

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ANNOTATED LISTS.

Literature of American history, ed. by J. N. LARNED. Cloth, \$6.00; postage, 30c.

Supplement for 1901, ed. by P. P. WELLS. \$1.00; postage, 10c.

For continuation see below under Catalog Cards.

Guide to reference books, by ALICE B. KROEGER. \$1.25; postage, 10c.

Bibliography of fine arts, ed. by GEORGE ILES. 90c.; postage, 10c.

Books for girls and women, ed. by GEORGE ILES. 90c.; postage, 10c.

Reading for the young, supplement by M. E. and A. L. SARGENT. 50c.; postage, 10c.

List of French fiction, by MME. CORNU and WILLIAM BEER. 5c.

Books for boys and girls, by CAROLINE M. HEWINS. New revised edition in preparation.

A. L. A. index to general literature. New edition. \$10.00; postage, 52c.

A. L. A. index to portraits. *In preparation.*

Subject headings for use in dictionary catalogs. \$2.00; postage, 12c.

Library tracts on subjects pertaining to the establishment and maintenance of public libraries.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Why do we need a public library? | } 5c. each, \$2.00 per 100
if ordered in lots of 50 or more |
| 2. How to start a library, by G. E. WIRE. | |
| 3. Traveling libraries, by F. A. HUTCHINS. | |
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CATALOG CARDS.

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U. S. Geological and Geographical survey of the territories. Reports 1-13. 26c.

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American academy of political and social sciences. Annals, 1890-1901. \$5.88.

Bibliographica, 3 vols. \$1.31.

British parliamentary papers, 1896-99. \$13.39. For 1900, \$1.86. *To be continued.*

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Some interesting facts for librarians.

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We can sell library cards as cheap as 15 cents a hundred. In a much used catalog they will last, on an average, 3 years. This means not only new cards every 3 years but that these new cards must be written up.

An average library school graduate can copy about 100 cards a day. Her salary would be, say, \$12 per week, or \$2 per day. This means that every new card would cost:

Price of card	-	-	-	$\frac{3}{20}$ cents.
Writing up	-	-	-	2 $\frac{3}{20}$ cents.
Total	-	-	-	$2\frac{3}{20}$ cents.

Our medium weight library standard card costs \$3 per 1000, with 20 per cent discount in 20,000 lots. A single card thus costs $\frac{3}{1000}$ of a cent. It will last 50 years. But assume that at the end of 15 years it is sufficiently soiled to require replacing.

Now compare the amount paid, in 15 years, for replacing cheap cards, with the cost of a library standard card. At the end of that time a single cheap card has been replaced and re-written 5 times at a cost of $2\frac{3}{20}$ cents per time, equals $10\frac{3}{20}$ cents. The extra **original** cost of the library standard card over the cheap card is $\frac{3}{20}$ of a cent. The amount saved on one card in 15 years, by using library standard cards is therefore $10\frac{3}{20}$ cents minus $\frac{3}{20}$ cents, equals $10\frac{3}{20}$ cents. In a library of 10,000 volumes, counting $2\frac{1}{2}$ cards to the volume, the total saving would be \$2650. In a library of 50,000 it would be \$13,250. Pretty large figures!

Library Bureau library standard cards have been produced especially for card catalog work. A card was required whose durability should be practically unlimited. No stock on the market was equal to the purpose. After long experiment, Library Bureau produced a card, made from a special formula, whose toughness, resiliency and writing surface actually **improve with age**. They can be duplicated nowhere in the world.

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WHY "PAGANS"?

THE term "pagan" literally means *villager, rustic or barbarian*, and as used by Christians means an idolatrous or godless man—a heathen: A heathen means a *heather-man*, bushman or savage! Now consider the absurdity of applying this term *pagan* to the old Greek Philosophers, *Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle*, three of the greatest minds in the history of religion, ethics, and philosophy. These men were not rustics or barbarians and not *godless*, but eminently "godly," and represented the highest urban culture. In their works will be found the most exalted conceptions of God, the Soul, and a life of virtue. In the words of Socrates, 500 years before the New Testament was written, will be found a clearer statement of the doctrine of the immortal soul and its future states of probation, reward, and punishment than can be found in any part of the Bible. And in Plato's Dialogues will be found a perfect statement of the Golden Rule, 400 B. C., and also a full statement of the modern utilitarian theory of ethics in terms identical with that given by our greatest modern evolutionist, Herbert Spencer. To get a true idea of "pagan" teachings and correct popular misconceptions, read Vol. I of *Evolution of Ethics* by The Brooklyn Ethical Association, entitled *The Ethics of the Greek Philosophers*, 333 pages, 21 illustrations, including many portraits of the philosophers and a Life of Socrates.

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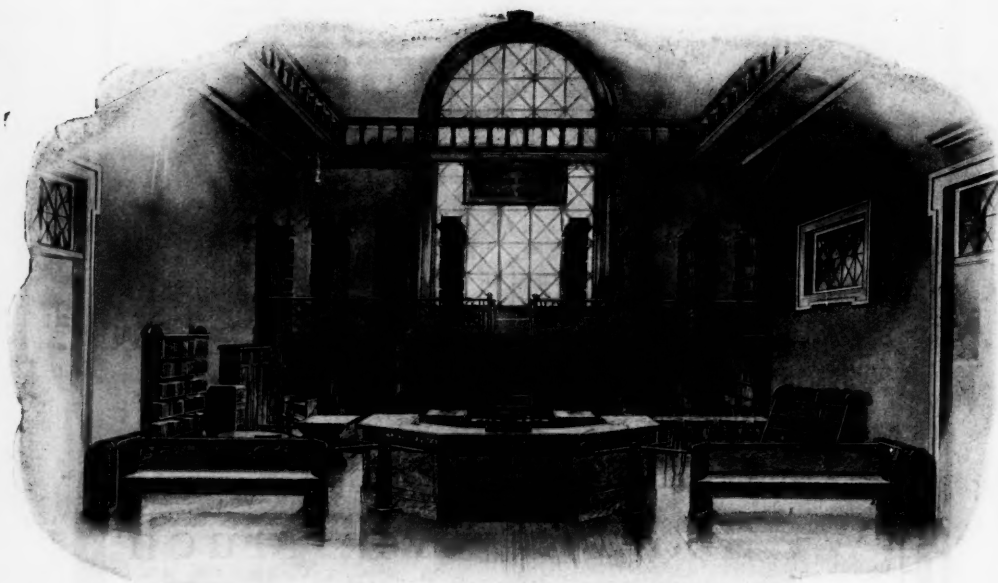
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